JOHANN MATTHÄUS REICH

Also known as

JOHN REICH

by Stewart Witham

Cover
United States Military
Philosophical Society Seal
2 inches diameter on paper

Courtesy New York Historical Society

JOHANN MATTHÄUS REICH

Also known as

JOHN REICH

by Stewart Witham

© November 1993

Permission to use or reproduce
should be sought from the author.

FORWARD

I am not an historian or a trained writer - I am a hobbyist, long interested in the background of U.S. coins and medals 1807-36.

In my preparation for this paper I have stayed almost totally with contemporaneous sources - letters, books, or articles. I have not attempted to interpret the possible bias of any of these authors.

I write about JMR but can offer no bones -no muscles - no heart - sorry about that - but through letters written to him, from him, and about him some characteristics become apparent.

His skill as an artist pleases some - not all. He shows a pride; he shows aggressiveness; he attacks the highest authorities asking response to his value. Finally admitting his sight loss as a cause of his skill failure, he goes on to stereotype letter production for the printing trade. He fails twice: once in Philadelphia at age 53 - and again in Pittsburgh at age 56.

When "JCR" appears in this story, it refers to Johann Christian Reich, the father of Matthäus.

When "JMR" is found, it stands for Johann Matthäus Reich, the subject of this paper.

Plates shown are not necessarily actual size.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due many entities and individuals for the data and services provided.

Included are:

Jayn Kemp
Robert Julian
Sam Clements
John Kirkpatrick
Don Taxay
Tom Ikins
Phil Keller
Bowers & Merena
Fritz Braun - German Genealogist
James Cheevers, U.S. Navy Museum
Stadtl. Fürth - German
Historical Society of Pennsylvania
The Library Co. (of Philadelphia)
Library of Congress
National Archives
New York City Public Library
New York Historical Society
PAFA (Penn. Academy of the Fine Arts)
Princeton University,
(The Papers of Thomas Jefferson)
Princeton University Library
R.S. MacCollister
Rollo Silver
The Token and Medal Society
College of William and Mary

Sincere appreciation to Bob Seiple and Staff.

THANKS TO CONTEMPORARIES

Thomas Jefferson, President
James Madison, Secretary of State
Henry Voigt
George Harrison
Ben Latrobe
Joseph Sansom
Robert Patterson
John Lithgow
Navy Secretary
William Dunlap

PREFACE

Intellectual inquiry into every historical and practical detail was always a part of Stewart Witham's lifetime of collecting and studying the coins and medals related to the engravers Johann Matthäus Reich and his father Johann Christian Reich.

Believing that knowledge about the design and manufacturing of U. S. capped bust halves and related Mint medals lends an enhanced dimension to this hobby, Stew has written the first biography of Johann Matthäus Reich. This is a story of a German immigrant who during his first twenty years in America, contributed much to the art and success of our fledgling nation, while the remaining years of his life were spent in obscurity and mysterious decline. The insight that Stew gives us about Reich and the Mint during those earlier years helps us understand the pressures and challenges that dictated the life of Mint officials during the early 1800's. For many of us this paper will provide a new approach to collecting the objects we pursue.

The study of numismatics goes well beyond the accumulation of coins and medals. The research published in this paper is a classic example of how learning about the times and the environment in which our early coins were manufactured can enhance the pleasure we find in collecting them.

Russell J. Logan
Cleveland, Ohio
April, 1994

EUROPE

The following are excerpts from the records St. Michael's Lutheran Church, located in Fürth, Bavaria. The first is dated in the year 1758, Palm Sunday. "The honest Johann Christian Reich single, young inhabitant and belt maker of this place (Fürth), second matrimonial son of the noble and manly Johann Christian Reich, formally under the honorable Dragoon Regiment of your serene Highness, Johann Augustus of Saxon-Gotha, Ancient Cadet, and the virtuous lady Maria Magdalena, widow of the honest Johann Rissner, Ancient belt maker of this place, married here on Tuesday, 28 of March at mid-day." Witnesses are listed as well as the fact that they held a small meal in their residence following the ceremony.

Now comes the extract of the Baptism-register of St. Michael's Furth, Bavaria, year 1767. On Sunday the 16th of August, a child was baptized. The father was Johann Christian Reich belt maker, mother, Maria Magdalena, the child, Johann Matthäus.

Further records of the St. Michael's church, the year 1791, indicates that "Sunday, the 28th of August, by Seigneurial permission of the church the following engaged couple was married without proclamation." "The bridegroom was Johann Matthäus Reich, belt maker, youngest son of Hof-Medailleur of Ansbach. The bride was Margarita Schültheis, only daughter of innkeeper, Frederick Schültheis. They were married in the evening at 8:00 in my office."

Following is an extract of the baptism register of St. Michael's, Fürth, Bavaria, year 1792. "On Tuesday, the 3rd of January, baptized by Archi-Diakon, Fron Müller, a child. Father, Johann Matthäus Reich Medailleur, mother Margarita. Sponsors were Maria Magdalena, wife of the Court Medailleur Johann Christian Reich. Child's name, Magdalena Elisabetha. P.S.: The name was given by the child's Grandmother, Elisabetha, wife of the innkeeper, Frederick Schültheis."

In addition to Johann Matthäus Reich, there were two brothers. The first was Johann Georg Reich, who was a belt maker and gilder, baptized 27 December 1762 in Fürth. The second brother was Georg Christian Reich, who became an artistic turner member of the municipal council in Fürth. He was baptized 28 April 1765 and died 29 March 1848 in Fürth. The father Johann Christian Reich was from Eisenburg in the former territory of Saxon-Altenburg. Born as the son of a cadet on the 2nd of April 1730, he left home in 1754 and is first mentioned in Fürth in 1755. As noted he married the widow of a belt maker in 1758 and then is recorded as having built a home at 22 Alexander Street in 1767. He was a prolific producer of a great number of items including metal buttons with portraits, gold plated mirror frames, artistic turneries, electrical machines, pneumatic pumps, etc. Also he was a producer in great quantity of Jetons and medals, usually of tin. Most of the medals were recording events in the life of European Sovereigns, Princes', of wars, peace treaties, revolution, aerial navigation, and other occasions which were suggested to him. He was called by those of his period the "personified calendar of history." Göethe mentioned him in his diary of his third Swiss trip, under date November 11, 1797, as the "court jeweler Reich". Margrave Carlisle Alexander nominated Reich as court Medailleur. But when the government changed and became a possession of Prussia, he was called a kingly Prussian. Again with governmental change, to possession of Bavaria, he was called a kingly Bavarian Medailleur. After the death of his first

wife he married a widow from Eisenberg in 1800. This was recorded again in St. Michael extracts and dated January 26, 1800. The first son Johann Georg Reich was a belt maker master. Also working in the production of glasses from Horn and Tortoise. The second son Georg Christian Reich made imitations of clocks, clocks for children and other fancy goods. He is known to have invented a machine which allowed him to turn reliefs on metals.

At this point it may be of value to discuss the attributions made in the catalog Pax In Nummis, which was the catalogue of peace medals edited by J. Schulman in 1912. It is considered to be the Bible of this Medallic era. Schulman in his work describes numbers 625 through 698. They include the Peace of Teschen, the Peace of Paris, the Treaty Peace of Pillnitz, and the Peace of Luneville. In his index regarding 625 (Betts #560), he says that the artist die sinker was JMR, not JCR. Please note that JMR was at this time 11 years old, the date being 1778. Further the Peace of Teschen #630, 631, 632, 633, 635 and 636 are noted in his index as being the work of JMR who was on the dates 1779 only 12 years of age. He also calls the Peace of Paris, 1783 and the Treaty Peace of Pillnitz 1791 the work of JMR. The usual pattern in medals of this type was to issue them on dates current with their occurrence. It is however, possible that they could have been issued on some later date at a time when JMR was equal to the task but the important point is that the medals done 10 to 12 years after the occurrence would not have sold to the public and that was the purpose of JCR's operation to make current historic recordings of important events and at a profit. In the Pax Nummis index medals, # 697, # 698, Peace of Luneville, 1801, are both appropriately attributed to JCR since at the time of these medal issues JMR was no longer associated with his father but working for Bückel in Dürlach or in America.

The material which I have previously presented suggests that at least from 1791 at the time of the marriage and subsequent birth of his child, Reich (that is JMR,) was not part of the production staff of the shop in Fürth.

I wish to quote from a work translated as "about the high princely Ansbach Court medalist Johann Christian Reich" by M. Meissner. (Private government councilor at Altenburg.) He quotes Heinrich Bolzenthal from Germany in his piece "Sketches for an art history of the modern medal work from 1429 - 1840." He states "Johann Christian Reich died 1814. Having lived in Fürth where he was very active but produced little of real significance judged by the yardstick of his time." Meissner continues "the evaluation seems hard but none the less true. Reich was not among the first masters in his craft during a time which had reached a low ebb as far as art taste is concerned. Never the less, he has produced noteworthy pieces; this is even more remarkable in view of his limited education. Reich puts before us pictures of a variety of happenings and single events, peculiar to his time, of which we hardly have any knowledge. But in his descriptions shines through a vital interest in the world events, great men who were looked up to in rejoicing and in admiration, a political perspective, a taking sides which wins our sympathy and reveals his character. And this needs to be mentioned: Reich had to work as producer of small counter coins at Furth to make a living. With the products of his art he had to attend fairs and markets, to effect their sale. Often he had to hurry the completion of a medal in order to keep up with the public interest and rush to the Leipzig or Nurnberg fairs or exhibitions. One has to marvel where he got the portraits of his figures, the coats of arms, the emblems and so forth and where he got the Latin inscriptions. In 1788, apparently in the spring, Reich who had come from poor circumstances and with his own strength had become a self

made man, revisited his home town of Eisenberg. He was well received and during the next year he was made Champion Shot in absentia."

We further quote from Meissner, "we have attempted to evaluate the works of Reich and are of the opinion that, while we have no great medalist, yet we have a skillful man and master of his craft before us. He comes from poor and obscure circumstances and therefore has worked himself up from a poor early education, yet he won the recognition of his contemporaries. His memory in the annals of German medalists will not be extinguished." From Forrer we learned that he settled in Furth in 1758, began as an assistant under a 5 year apprenticeship to a Counter-manufacturer, starting in business on his own account about 1770. Forrer also has a list of known pieces executed by JCR, Johann Christian Reich, that is probably the most extensive available. Many times it was common in those days for the master to do the obverse of a piece, while, the apprentice or assistant did the reverse. Not all of the reverses which JMR worked on are noted as being his. In the book by Hennin "Numismatic history of the French Revolution" he lists 36 jetons and medals that are done by JCR, the father. He also lists pieces done by JMR, 6 in number. These include Hennin 545, and Hennin 546 which are dated to commemorate the guillotine death of Louis the XVI and Marie Antoinette, both occurring in 1793.

Hennin tells us that JMR did one of the two, but in my opinion, this was not the case since JMR had within the recent past, left the employ of his father and was working with Martin Bückle in Dürlach. I believe that the father did both pieces since both are signed with the letter "R", standard for JCR. The only real difference between the two is that one has a reverse with a single line legend and the other has a reverse with two lines. The father did a medal of Blanchard, the balloonist, dated 10/3/1785 to commemorate a flight by balloon over France. The son, JMR copied this piece reversing the obverse busts, the father's is to the left, son's is to the right. JCR also did a work on the death of Hans Joachim Von Ziethen in 1786. Again, the busts are reversed with JMR's going to the right and JCR's to the left. JMR's piece is signed M. Reich on the truncation. Further, in 1789 JCR, the father, did an obverse depicting himself while the reverse was done by the son, IMR and so marked. A medal depicting Frederick the Great on the obverse was done by JCR, while the reverse was done by JMR and marked Fecit R. Iun. The Iun stands for JMR the Junger.

I have been unable to locate any pieces done by JMR and marked as JMR's work during his connection with Bückle in Dürlach.

To quote Forrer "One can only confirm Bolzenthal's appreciation of this Medallist's work, that it does not rank very high in artistic merit."

Meissner says that many of the medals signed "R" or "Reich" and issued between 1789 and 1800 were the work of both father and son. But this cannot be.

JMR was 24 years old at the time of his marriage. The daughter of this union was born after a four months pregnancy. After JMR's marriage and the birth of his child, JMR went to work in the shop of Martin Bückle in Dürlach. I have found nothing that suggests his wife and child went with him. In May of 1800 he left Hamburg aboard the Ship Anna. The passenger list does not include the wife or child. Further, there is no American evidence suggesting that

his wife and child joined him later in America. I deduce then that the couple was divorced or at least separated.

The general trend had been for JCR to create the obverse which would show the bust or a scene depicting a purpose for the medal while JMR produced the dies for the reverse. In some instances JMR made copies of his fathers work, but always reversed the point of view of the obverse (bust left became bust right) and made obvious changes in the reverse dies so that they could be readily recognized. Sometimes he signed his name on the dies that he made for his father, JMR, sometimes MR, and at least once IUN, meaning Aufdeutch (in German), the "Junger".

While Reich was working for Bückel, Colonel John Trumbull, visited the Bückel's shop in Dürlach. Subsequently in April of 1799, JMR wrote to Trumbull asking him for a "good drawing and lifelike portrait of "General Nelson" (sic) and profile, because I like to engrave it and to make a beautiful medal of it, but I should inform you, that I could not pay it if it would be too expensive." Then he further asks about a possible position as an engraver in London and that they, Trumbull and JMR, would not lose by the execution of this medal.

June 1, 1799, Reich, JMR again addresses Colonel Trumbull regretting that he has not heard from his first letter indicating that a good deal could have been arranged with a handsome medal of "General Nelson" (sic). He indicates that if he were in London himself, he would then like to make medallions for you (Colonel Trumbull) and he says, I think that "some profits could be made thereby". "There is nothing for me to do in Germany", he says. "No men who support art help it or are willing to engage in a business venture." "I myself have nothing with which to undertake anything but must work for my bread". "If I had travel money so that I could travel to London decently and properly, I would have left Germany long ago." Since you are acquainted with Professor Müller, in Stuttgart, "you may inquire of him about my work". After signing his name to the letter he writes a note "should you write to Professor Müller, I ask that you say to him that he should let no one know about it."

Nothing appears to have developed from his correspondence to Colonel Trumbull and it would appear obvious that no one would respond on the terms and conditions offered by Reich.

Colored plates (Plate 3) follow for the medal executed by JCR in the year 1782 involving Joseph the II, and Pope Pius the VI. With these plates of obverse and reverse is a xerox copy (Plate 4) of the brochure issued by Reich and in which the gilded medal was wrapped when bought by the author.

"Anna" - this vessel was owned by the shipping company Jacob Taakes of Hamburg, Germany. It had a thirteen (13) man crew, with Jan Juergens Captain. The vessel weighed 320 tons, had 126 passengers, which included 97 males, 10 women, 15 children, 4 male cabin. 59 of the total were indentured. JMR was one of them. The vessel left Hamburg May 25, 1800, and arrived in Philadelphia August 19, 1800. Of those indentured, 28 left having been pledged to an employer before Reich was released. There were 31 after JMR yet he says "I saw all my fellow passengers leave the ship. I am left alone on board as an outcast." This letter was addressed to President Jefferson. It appears from the records that indentured Anna passengers were recorded through 9/16/1800. While JMR was on board, after the letter written from him to Thomas Jefferson, Henry Voigt, Chief coiner of the US Mint, visited him on board and was impressed with the medals that he showed him. In addition to the passengers which the Anna carried, the records show that there four (4) boxes of linens, Bavarian. 600 basket bottles (Demi Johns), 1 box of Saxon lace, cognac. This cargo with the individuals involved was the total arriving in Philadelphia. As a passing comment it's interesting to note that on the list of passengers in the brig Tryphena, which arrived September 30, 1800 in the port of Philadelphia, one of the people on board was "Ant Poggi". This is the man to whom Reich directed his correspondence in regard to Colonel Trumbull's visit.

JMR was indentured to John Brown, Silversmith, on August 27, 1800. The indenture is recorded on page 250 of the register of Redemptions, 1785 - 1804 as of August 27. It reads, "John Matthäus Reich, bound himself servant to John Brown of the city of Philadelphia, Silverplater, to serve him two years to have one dollar every week during his servitude and customary freedom suits. A consideration for this indenture, 20 guineas."

Plate 1
Pierre Blanchard balloonist
commemorating the 15th air
trip dated 10-3-1785.
white metal
size 46mm by JCR

Courtesy Bowers & Merena

Plate 2

Pierre Blanchard done by

JMR copying his father

Changing to Bust Right and

showing MR in the Arm Cut.

This commerates the flight of Blanchard over Nürnberg

white metal JMR

size 46mm

Plate 3

Joseph II and Pope Pius VI

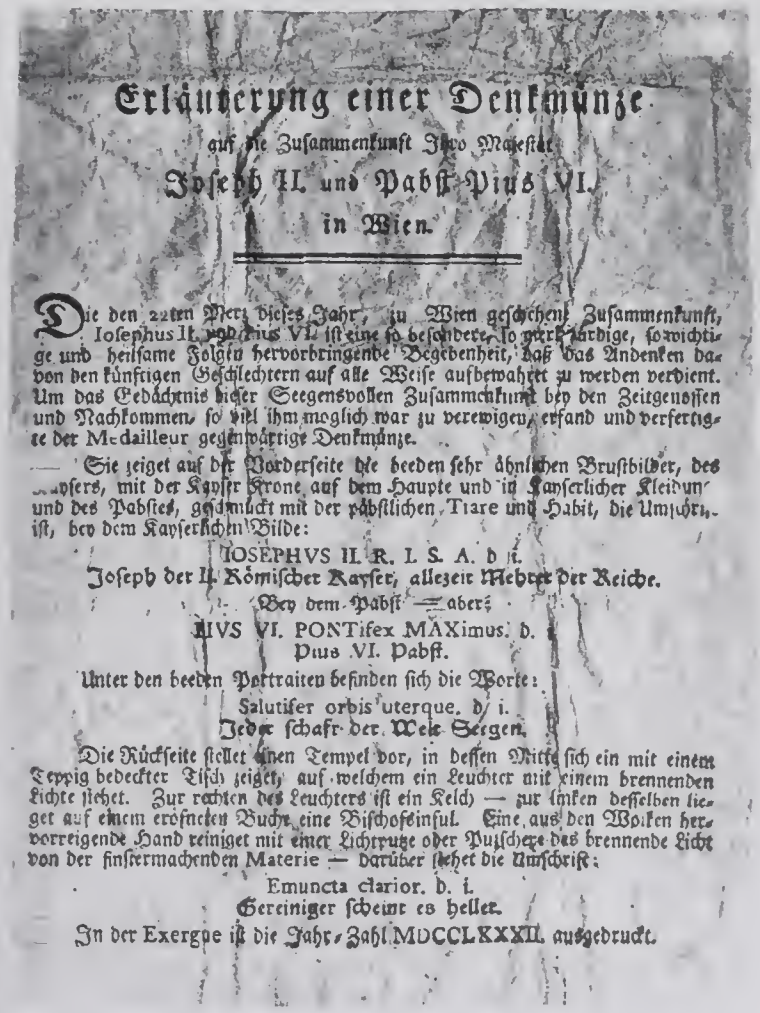
Memorial of their meeting in

Wien (Vienna) 1782

white metal Vergeldete

Gilt

size 43mm by JCR



Erläuterung einer Denkmünze

auf die Zusammenkunft Ihro Majestät

Joseph II. und Pabst Pius VI.

in Wien.

Die den 22ten Merz dieses Jahr, zu Wien geschehene Zusammenkunft, [illegible] Iosephus II. und Pius VI. ist eine so besondere, so merkwürdige, so wichtige und heilsame Folgen hervorbringende Begebenheit, daß das Andenken davon den künftigen Geschlechtern auf alle Weise aufbewahret zu werden verdient. Um das Gedächtnis dieser Seegensvollen Zusammenkunft bey den Zeitgenossen und Nachkommen so viel ihm möglich war zu verewigen, erfand und verfertigte der Medailleur gegenwärtige Denkmünze.

— Sie zeiget auf der Vorderseite die beeden sehr ähnlichen Brustbilder, des Kayſers, mit der Kayſer Krone auf dem Haupte und in Kayſerlicher Kleidung und des Pabstes, geschmückt mit der päbstlichen Tiare und Habit, die Umschrift ist, bey dem Kayserlichen Bilde:

IOSEPHVS II. R. I. S. A. d. i.
Joseph der II. Römischer Kayser, allezeit Mehrer des Reiche.

Bey dem Pabst — aber:

PIVS VI. PONTifex MAXimus. d.
Pius VI. Pabst.

Unter den beeden Portraiten befinden sich die Worte:

Salutifer orbis uterque. d. i.
Jeder schafft der Welt Seegen.

Die Rückseite stellet einen Tempel vor, in dessen Mitte sich ein mit einem Teppig bedeckter Tisch zeiget, auf welchem ein Leuchter mit einem brennenden Lichte stehet. Zur rechten des Leuchters ist ein Kelch — zur linken desselben lieget auf einem eröfneten Buche eine Bischofeinsul. Eine aus den Wolken hervorreigende Hand reiniget mit einer Lichtruze oder Puzschere das brennende Licht von der finstermachenden Materie — darüber stehet die Umschrift:

Emuncta clarior. d. i.
Gereiniget scheint es heller.

In der Exergue ist die Jahr-Zahl MDCCLXXXII. ausgedruckt.

Plate 4

Printed Memorial in which

the medal had been wrapped

size 6 1/2" x 8 1/2"

SEALS

The following ad appeared in the General Advertiser of Philadelphia. It was written in the following editions: June 10, July 12, 16, 1802. The ad reads:

> "J. Reich, Seal and die engraver respectfully informs the public that he intends to follow that business and all its branches - from his experience in that line, he flatters himself that he will be able to give full satisfaction to those that may favor him with their commands. Drawings or likenesses that may be wanted he will execute himself, or take copies with the greatest accuracy. A specimen of his abilities (and the medal of President Jefferson) may be seen at the office of the Aurora or at his lodging at # 21 North 6th Street."

His statement that he will create the drawings or likenesses as wished by the buyer of his services is most unusual because in most instances he has told his customers that they will have to provide the image or the personage before he will execute the engraving. It should be further noted that this advertisement for seal engraving coincided with the advertisement on the Thomas Jefferson Inaugural Medal.

The United States Military Philosophical Society on February 6th, 1806, Colonel Jonathon Williams in a letter directed to Thomas Jefferson, President, sought his help in the design of this particular seal. Williams, as President, had been charged with effecting the details of this seal. Thomas Jefferson referred him to "Mr. Barlow". Joel Barlow on February 12, 1806, in three pages criticizes the design as lacking simplicity and including a mixture of allegory and emblems.

On March 11, 1806 John Vaughn reports that he has seen Mr. Reich, who estimates the cost not to exceed $60.00, but to be sure Reich must see the design.

Further counsel on design is offered by L. Simond and Mr. Mason. The matter is finally concluded with Reich's bill and the receipt dated May 30, 1806, where in he describes the seal as follows:

> "A Minerva in the act of striking the ground with her spear and an olive tree bearing fruit rising as a result of the stroke with the model Scientianin Bello Pax."

In addition to the material on the US Military Philosophical Society I would like to add the translation of a letter which Benjamin Henry Latrobe wrote to John Reich from Philadelphia on 16 January, 1807.

" To John Reiche
Philadelphia
January 16, 1807

Sir,

The printed reproduction of the seal of the military philosophical society of the United States has given me so much genuine pleasure that I, -- as a member of that society, unsolicited and in fact without knowing you personally, -- cannot refrain from expressing to you my most heartfelt and sincere approval. The attitude of the Minerva has all the sublime dignity of a goddess and also shows the calm that still bears the traces of changes that have gone before; -- it is the very calm that has been so much admired in the Apollo Belvidere, and that has so rarely been achieved by even the best artists. And in the execution as well, you have combined perfect and classical knowledge of the material with a bold firmness of the hand, so that even the face of the goddess expresses the unfathomable and sublime thoughts that are part of history /?/, while at the same time it has a true Greek beauty.

The only thing that interferes with my pleasure about such a work is the troubling thought that in our country, -- where a man who works merely with his hands or his pen is bound to become independent and perhaps rich, -- the dignity of art and the merits of an artist of your caliber are not properly recognized and rewarded.

With the most sincere respect, I remain

your obedient servant,

B. Henry Latrobe"

There is a reference to insurance companies and canal companies as regards seals made by Reich. This is found in the George Harrison letter to Reich complaining about the Preble Bill. The Canal Company Seals cost $60.00 each.

He uses the plural for both which suggests at least two insurance companies and two canal company seals. For the Phoenix Insurance Company he charged $100.00 and the Union Insurance Company $60.00. No other details are available.

Another seal is known to have been executed for the Philadelphia National Bank. During a lengthy correspondence regarding Reich's charge for the Preble Medal, George Harrison, Navy agent in Philadelphia writes to JMR and states that his charge for The Bank of Philadelphia seal was $110.00. Nicholas Wainwright "History of the Philadelphia Bank" page 23 states that Ben Latrobe designed The Bank Seal in 1805.

JMR executed the seal for the "Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts" and was paid $27.00 on May 3, 1806. The only evidence of this is a file card from PAFA which records this fact as illustrated with permission. Correspondence with the Pennsylvania academy of the Fine Arts, December 7, '76, with Kathy Stover archivist indicates that she found a bond warrant dated September 10, 1817, which contains an embossed seal equal to the modern gold wreath seal and she says it is described as follows: "There is a wreath border, an artist's pallet at the top with brushes poking through the thumb-hole, and in the center it says in caps PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS, 1806". The PAFA seal was designed by Benjamin Latrobe pre April 26, 1806. He was a very well known architect at the time, involved in the Philadelphia art community and it is likely that Latrobe recommended JMR to the Bank of Philadelphia.

The Humane Society of Philadelphia (now known for animals) told me that all records of the original Society had been delivered to the Pennsylvania Hospital in 1853. A letter to them advised me that they were indeed the custodians and that I might look on my time in their facilities.

Eventually I visited the Hospital and was entranced while reading the original board minutes and financial records. In a contest advertised for saving lives, I learned that through January 1, 1808, they had had three entries, but no winners, because there was nothing original in the material. In 1810 they tried again. This time not one entry was received. The next date was January 1, 1813. At that time they received four (4) dissertations, again, no awards because they could not get the commission to act or even admit where the essays were located. After three (3) of these attempts, they gave up. The planned medal was never issued. In reading through pre-January 1, 1808 records, I found "minutes" referring to a need for the seal, it's design, and eventually the fact that the execution was in hands of the engraver. At last the account records stated "1806, February 13, to cash" and finally referenced to the payment "pay John Reich for a seal from order # 1, $50.00". No seal copies were to be found with the records that I examined. I have seen no sale records of this seal. The design as described in the minutes indicates "man blowing a torch with the words around the edge" "Humane Society of Philadelphia, Incorporated - 1793". And at the bottom, "DO NOT DESPAIR?"

Plate 5
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Seal
size 42mm

designed by Latrobe
executed by JMR
cost $ 27.00

Plate 6

The Philadelphia National Bank Seal
size 39mm

designed by Benjamin Latrobe
and executed by JMR size 39mm

AT THE MINT

On April 1, 1807, JMR began his work at the Mint in Philadelphia. The contract which he had entered into with Patterson, superintendent of the Mint, did not outline the hours or the days that he was to work, but it did say that he should complete government medals and seals if there was time without making him stay over. It is my understanding, although not proven that the hours at the Mint were from sunup to sundown six days a week. It was JMR's habit to live in boarding houses which were within easy walking distance of the mint structure. The addresses are as follows: 3 South 6th Street, 21 North 6th Street, 1802; 14 Philbert, 1803-4; 17 South 4th Street, 1805-8; nothing in the directories for the years 1809-18; 78 South 11th Street, 1819.

During his tenure at the Mint, I estimate that he executed at least 270 different coin dies, obverses and reverses. His first project was the 1807 — 50¢ piece and the five dollar gold, which were done in 1807. In 1808 he followed with the large cent and the 2½ dollar gold. In 1809 the ½ cent and the 10¢ piece and in 1815 the quarter. I have not included any of these in my plates because they are 1) so well known, and 2) so available in other printed sources.

One innovation of his was a signature which is described in a Numismatic Scrap Book article, November 1967, page 1934. There was a scallop, a small semi-circular cut out of one of the points in star 13, which became Reich's signature and was known through 1817 and on almost all dies of the period of his employment.

Another innovation which was tried in 1809 and subsequently discontinued was an addition to the edge legend 50¢ or ½ a dollar. Between the words on some of the 1809 pieces were vertical straight lines and on some others there were what I call criss-cross, engrailed lines added between words. In an article in Numismatic scrapbook, April 9, 1967, page 69, the story is expanded.

In a letter by Patterson 3/25/1807 to Thomas Jefferson, he calls Scot, the Mint engraver, "upwards of 70" and incapable of doing good work. When I check Taxay, his encyclopedia and his book on the Mint history, I find that he makes no reference of the "upwards of 70" age. Patterson simply says "Scot is yet so far advanced in life that he cannot very long be expected to continue his labors." " — and in the event of his sickness or death, the business of mint would probably be stopped for sometime: Since few, if anyone, could be found qualified to supply his place, except Mr. Reich, an artist with whose talents I presume you are not unacquainted, and this gentleman, not finding business here sufficient for his support, is, I understand about to remove to Europe." I have for sometime held the opinion that the 1816 large cent was in fact done by Reich, not by Scot, basically because Reich's eyesight was failing as evidenced by his Decatur Naval Medal obverse which was considered a caricature and was followed by his resignation from the Mint, March 31, 1817. There seems to be no documentation for the statement by others that Scot did the 1816 Large cent. Bob Julian indicates that this must be because Reich's work was so highly desirable that he could not have

done something as bad as the 1816 Large cent and thus it must have been Scot's reintroduction to the cutting of dies.

We had talked, Bob Julian and I, two or three years ago about the same subject and we both agreed that it was probably Reich who did this piece and not Scot. He, as of this date, has not changed his opinion nor have I. According to Julian, there are no records, no documentation of the fact that Scot was supposed to have done the 1816 Large cent. It was simply on the premise that Reich was capable of more desirable work and thus Scot must have been the culprit.

It is further to be noted that Scot died in 1823. Breen says he was 79 years old, which means that at the time 1807 when Patterson wrote the letter about Scot's incapacity to do good work, he would have been 61½ years of age. (The ANA Library says Scot was born in Edinburgh Scotland 10/2/1745) Julian has the opinion that Patterson was calling Scot "upwards of 70" as an exaggeration of his concept of real age and as an excuse for the fact that Scot was not capable of doing acceptable work.

In the Patterson letter to Thomas Jefferson 3/25/1807, the last paragraph states "and if this gentleman should be employed, perhaps more than his salary would be saved to the publick, in what is usually expended on the engraving of dies for medals, but which might then be executed by an artist in their own service, with little or no additional expense."

However, in a memorandum copied on scratch paper at the National Archives, the terms of employment are spelled out and concluded with the following: "Provided that, in the execution of any such works (medals, seals, etc.) no extraordinary hours of labor or attendance be required, without an adequate compensation therefore." This, evidently is the support for the work that JMR did on government dies and seals during his employment at the mint where he was paid additional money for their execution.

No one was allowed to leave the Mint during the day. Meals were brought to them (by their families). So I ask the question, who brought JMR's? Voigt? Since Voigt died February 1814, who did it then?

MEDALS — NAVAL
TRUXTON

With permission of TAMS and the author of US Mint Medals, Robert Julian, I quote as follows:

" On March 5, 1801, Director Elias Boudinot received permission, via George Harrison, from the Navy department to have the Truxtun dies executed at the mint. This is the only contemporary mint document found that deals directly with the Truxtun dies.

"Stewart Witham rediscovered the New York *Morning Chronicle* article of October 15, 1802, and sent it to the author. (The article had been mentioned in the *American Journal of Numismatics* in the past century, but with an incorrect date.) Part of this article is worth repeating since it bears on the medal and is virtually inaccessible to researchers. The article states that, "On March 24th 1800 Congress voted to Commodore Truxtun a gold medal, as a mark of their sense of his gallantry, and the bravery of the American tars under his command in supporting the honor of the American flag...

"Calumny had whispered that this Medal, which was voted under the old administration, would be very lamely pout in execution under the present — if the vote was at all acted upon. We are happy to find, in contradiction of this report, every attention has been exerted to honor this vote of Congress and the ablest artists in our country employed to carry it into effect. The work was some time since completed and the medal presented to Commodore Truxtun. Owing to an accident in the mint very few impressions were struck. Of course those few will be objects of demand at a future day. We have seen an impression and have heard the opinion expressed by a person on whose judgement we can place confidence. According to this information we consider it superior to anything of the kind previously executed in this country...

"The design for the medal and the likeness were by Mr. Archibald Robertson, of this city, and the die was engraved by Mr. R. Scott, of the Mint, Philadelphia.

"Despite the newspaper article naming Scot as the engraver, it is the opinion of the author that John Reich was also involved in the cutting of these dies. On October 25, 1815, Reich wrote George Harrison (in charge of the naval medals for the War of 1812) and noted, in respect to some unknown question, that a "similar error" was disliked by Truxtun. Reich must have been closely connected with the Truxtun dies to have known such details. The nature of the error mentioned by Reich is not known."

I have not been able to develop any documentation regarding the Truxtun medal, but agree, based on workmanship and the error which Reich referred to, that he was actually the die sinker who executed the medal.

In the letter from the Secretary of Navy to George Harrison, the agent in Philadelphia, 4-18-1806, the Secretary said, "the medal for Commodore Truxtun costs but $137.00." He made this statement in comparing the charges that JMR made for the Preble medal of $850.00.

PREBLE

A letter written by James Maxwell and William Fry to John Reich in response to his letter of the 7th of September 1816 indicates the following. Reich had submitted a newly created bank note with the idea that it would be extremely difficult for counterfeiters to make an effective copy. Maxwell and Fry agreed that the submission was clever but the subject was dropped and there was no further action taken.

Congress resolved on March 3, 1805, that Edward Preble, Officers, Seamen and Marines of his squadron would be rewarded with a medal because of their gallantry and good conduct displayed in the several attacks on the town batteries and Naval force of Tripoli in the year 1804. Robert Smith, Secretary of Navy, in a letter March 13, 1805 to George Harrison, the Navy agent in Philadelphia asked that the engraver by the name of Reich, located in Philadelphia be asked to undertake the execution of the medal. George Harrison writes the Secretary of the Navy March 23, 1805, that Commodore Preble was in the city of Philadelphia and was prevailed upon by him to sit for Mr. Rembrandt Peale to produce a profile likeness. He states further that Mr. Reich, is the best die sinker in America and that a speciman may be seen of his work executed of the President Jefferson. Even though Reich had apparently been determined by Harrison as the one to execute the medal, we find a letter written by JMR to Jefferson dated May 22, 1805, asking for the opportunity to execute the medal of Preble. June of 1805, we find a letter from Preble to George Harrison submitting three (3) sketches of attacks on Tripoli by our squadrons which were to be used as a basis for the reverse. June 17, 1805, Harrison submits a profile taken by Rembrandt Peale of the subject Preble as well as the 3 action sketches. June 29, 1805, Harrison writes Robert Smith, Secretary of Navy, that the size or diameter of the sketch of Preble is much too great(3 1/2") for execution at the Mint, and asks that he obtain an order on the Mint or use of the machinery to strike the medal when the dies are executed.

On August 15, 1805, George Harrison directs a letter to Commodore Preble indicating that one of the three (3) drawings sent has been selected. The following are the inscriptions on the medal: Edwardo Preble Duci Strenuo Comitia Americana and Vindice Commercii Americani Ante Tripoli with the Latin date MDCCCIV stating further that it will be superior to anything of the kind ever executed in America. April 10, 1806, George Harrison writes the Secretary of the Navy regarding the price that Reich, the artist, has billed them for engraving, polishing and so forth on the Preble dies. He states that he is charged the enormous sum of $850.00. "Certainly $350.00 if not $450.00 is more than I shall pay!" Quoting further, "When I engaged him, he refused to name any price observing it was not possible for him, but the charge should be fair and an equitable one. $460.00 will be paying with great liberality. I will tomorrow, the ensuing day, hand you specimens of his work from other dies with their prices. I shall then be obliged by your directions on this subject."

In other letters, Harrison states the charges that JMR has made for seals, he calls them dies, and states that JMR could not have spent the amount of time he says he did on the execution of this work and that he is an artist of unknown excellence having been obliged to indenture himself to pay for his passage from Hamburg and further states that $650.00 would reward him liberal compensation. Reich, on April 28, 1806, directs another letter to the President appealing for his intercession based upon the President's knowledge of Reich's art. Reich on May 24. 1806, again writes to the President Thomas Jefferson indicating that the agent for the Navy has refused to pay him suggesting that he submit his appeal for the $850.00 to the President based on his sense of justice and his sense of taste. Jefferson on June 27, 1806, responding to Reich's letters and comments from Secretary of Navy writes at length about the prices that he paid in Paris to artists Duvivier, Dupre, and Gateau. He takes the prices paid to these artists in France and basing it upon the diameters of the medals they struck for General

Washington, Col. Washington, Col. Howard, Gen. Morgan, Paul Jones and Gen. Wayne he converts it to the price paid or requested by Reich for his medal of 2 1/2" on Preble and comes up with a compromise solution of $685.71. This excluded the price of gold which Reich had nothing to do with. He states further "I think no man living entitled to more than Duvivier and Dupre" and concludes by suggesting that this is the amount that the United States Government will pay.

The Preble Medal was struck in gold according to R.W. Julian at the Soho Mint in England. In addition, silver medals, copper medals were struck at the US Mint in Philadelphia and medals of silver content with a gilt exterior were struck by Mr. Armitage of Philadelphia who had his own press and striking mechanisms.

Per letter May 17, 1806, R. Smith then Secretary of the Navy, wrote to Preble that his gold medal will herewith "be delivered to you by Lieutenant Jones". On March 1, 1808, R. Smith, Secretary of the Navy writes that he has the honor to herewith transmit to you for your acceptance, an impression of the medal in silver presented to the late Commodore Edward Preble, in pursuance to the act of Congress of March 3, 1805. This letter was addressed to Captain Sam Nicholson, Captain Alec Murray, Commodore John Rodgers, Cap William Bainbridge, H.G. Campbell, Commodore S. DeCatur, Cap Thomas Tingey, Cap Stewart, Cap Isaac Hull, Cap Chauncey, John Shaw, Commander John Smith, L.H. Dent, T. Robinson, D. Porter, Cassin, and I. Evans. June 11, 1807, Tench Coxe writes to George Clymer, President of the Academy of the Fine Arts of Philadelphia, enclosing impressions in silver of the Preble medal executed by John Reich for inclusion in the cabinets of the Academy of the Fine Arts.

The American Philosophical Society donation book records that on December 18, 1807, R. Smith, Secretary of the Navy donated a bronze medal of Commodore Preble struck by the government and engraved by Reich. On the 22nd of November, 1820, Benjamin Homans who was Secretary of the Navy, writes George Harrison, Navy agent in Philadelphia indicating that last spring Captain Kennedy of the Navy took on to Philadelphia, the original dies for medals of Commodore Preble's victory of Tripoli with a view to having them cleaned so that a number of medals might be struck off as required, there being none remaining in the department. He then asked the questions "has Kennedy delivered those dies to you and what state are they in? He further asks for the costs of striking 50 each in silver, platinum or copper. Harrison's notes on the letter says "received and answered 24 November" "no dies have been delivered and the complaints must be directed to the director of the mint". In 1872, the dies were found on the desk of a Navy employee being used as paperweights and has since then been transferred to the custody of the mint where they are attempting to restore to a good working order with the possibility of producing new copies.

In 1974 it was recorded that the original gold medal of Preble currently on loan from his descendent Rear Admiral Dundus Preble Tucker was on display at the Naval Academy Museum. In 1884 reproductions of the Preble medal were struck at the U.S. Mint obverse and reverses are not equal to the pre-reproduction pieces since letter sizes and relationships are different.

It should be noted that in an Elder sale, December 11, 1914, lot # 934, he lists a pewter trial piece.

In 1884 the mint issued reproductions of the Preble medal in a red mahogany, the obverse and the reverse are not equal to pre-reproduction pieces since the letter sizes and relationships are not correct.

James W. Cheevers, curator of the United States Naval Mint, in April of '73, through correspondence with me indicates that he believes the reverse battle sketches of the Preble medal provided to Reich were done by Michele Felice Corne. During a lengthy correspondence regarding Reich's charge for the Preble medal, George Harrison Navy Agent in Philadelphia writes to JMR and states that his charge for the Bank of Philadelphia seal was $110.00.

HULL

A Congressional Resolution dated January 13, 1813 stated that a medal should be struck in commemoration of the action involving the victory of the Constitution over the British Frigate Guerriere. The Constitution was commanded by Isaac Hull. On 21st of July, 1814, Reich addresses George Harrison, agent of the Navy in Philadelphia asking for the opportunity to execute the 7 medals authorized by Congress. These included the Capture of the Guerriere, the Macedonia, the Frolic, the Java, the Peacock, and the Boxer. To this was added the Victory on Lake Erie. In his letter Reich says that at the moment he is involved with making medals for the Indians and by order of the Government he cannot break off from this work unless he receives directions from General Mason. Further if he were asked to do the work, he would require proper sketches for them and the devices to be used for each medal. By letter 22 July, 1814, JMR addressing Harrison says that he had made an estimate of $900.00 to $1000.00 per pair of dies, but until he sees the proper information, sketches, devices, etc. he cannot be more accurate. On October 5, 1814, W. John, Secretary of the Navy addresses George Harrison and encloses a letter from General Mason giving permission for Mr. Reich to be employed on the Naval dies.

He then asks that Reich be engaged immediately at reasonable terms. As a veiled threat to the Reich employment he suggests the possibility of using European artists or to use Mr. Fürst for the least difficult parts of the program. In a letter from JMR to George Harrison, 2-16-1815, he says that he has received the drawings intended for the medal to be presented to Commodore Hull and at the same time a request for the cost of engraving the dies. He subsequently offers to do the dies for $800.00 to $900.00. In a following letter JMR offers $800.00 as the final amount and the same day Harrison notes on his copy of the letter that he accepts the offer. A letter by Harrison indicates that the Secretary of the Navy has given him the authority to adopt the appropriate motto on the Captain Hull Medal. November 11, 1815, JMR states to Harrison that the dies are complete and that impressions of them can be seen in plaster. Isaac Hull writing from Groton 22 January, 1816, requests that five extra silver medals be struck for his account as soon as the gold one has been finished. He asks for the opportunity to pay for these at about $4.00 a piece.

In an unfinished letter dated 27 January, 1816, the writer, Harrison, probably in responding to Isaac Hull's letter of 1-22, says that there will be further delay in the preparation of the medals because of the mint fire which had just occurred.

It appears from the material available to me that the Navy Department prepared on February 10, 1820, a letter of transmittal for the gold medal to Hull and the draft was signed by Smith Thompson. The form letter covered transmissions to 18 men including Decatur. As added comments, I find a George Harrison memo with no date and no signature indicating a list of the War of 1812 medals. It stated that the Commodore Hull gold medal and 12 silver have been struck - there remains to be struck silver 38, copper 150. An article in Antiques Magazine, July 1984, tells us that the Isaac Hull gold medal is displayed in the Isaac Hull memorabilia at the USS Constitution Museum. There's a further note: the word Momento as listed on the Hull medal was considered by some between 1817 and 1820 to have been in error. The commentators thought the proper word usage would have been Momente.

DECATUR

On October 25, 1812 Decatur's US Frigate United States, engaged the British Frigate Macedonian in battle. As the result of Decatur's win, Congress, on January 29, 1813, by resolution awarded Decatur a gold medal, his officer/leadership, silver medals and the members of his crew, bronze medals commemorating this event. From correspondence it appears that Thomas Sulley was to have prepared a portrait for Reich's use in the preparation of this medal. But according to a letter directed to Decatur and dated January 22, 1816, it is clear that Sulley did a "front face" which would not be appropriate for execution of a medal. Sulley later corrected this with a "bust in full uniform, high coat collar, head to the right in profile". Sulley's register records this work done in Sepia and completed April 28, 1816, as the "portrait" painted for a medal awarded Decatur by Congress. Harrison's papers indicate the total strikings as one in gold, fifty (50) in silver, and one hundred and fifty (150) in bronze. Since, both obverse and reverse clearly state that Moritz Fürst executed these dies, one might wonder why Decatur is included in a Reich discourse.

It is stated in letters about and to Reich that he was hired to execute all of the Naval Medals for the war of 1812. He finished both Hull and Decatur. Hull's were accepted and used, but his obverse of the Decatur medal was considered a caricature - the reverse was worthwhile and acceptable. The Navy discharged Reich, paying him $400.00 for his reverse and nothing for the obverse. Moritz Fürst was then to take up the matter of Reich's obverse die and do a new one. The reverse, he was to harden, but the die broke. It is clear that he over-cut it, repaired and used it. It had been Reich's habit never to put his signature on the reverse, so in my opinion, Fürst over-cut the die and inserted his own signature on the reverse. The examination of two original silver supports this conclusion. The reverse of both, including several later bronze pieces, show a very weak die break which starts at 6 o'clock and runs vertically through the exergue into the cloud opposite the left mast on the right vessel. This die line divides the reverse into two planes. The Die break progressed in length in silver pieces through bronze.

On July 14, 1814, W. Jones, Secretary of the Navy writes to Harrison in Philadelphia (the Navy agent there) who was responsible for obtaining artists, arranging designs, securing the medal and making striking arrangements. First, Jones details the number of dies required, Hull through Perry and Elliot. Second, quoting "if the number of artists in Philadelphia shall not be sufficient, you will employ those in New York or elsewhere. I submit this business to your care." Third, the medals should be finished in succession according to the order of the dates of the events. On July 21, 1814, Reich writes to George Harrison that he is still engaged in the work on "medals for Indians" and "cannot break off from this work" unless an order is received from General Mason. On July 22, 1814, Reich writes again to Harrison saying that he is being pressed for a cost and the time required stating that nine hundred dollars ($900.00) to one thousand dollars ($1000.000 for each pair of dies are estimates and because of his wish to do justice to the undertaking, it would require fifteen (15) to eighteen (18) months.

It is not until October 5, 1814, that a decision is made. Jones, Secretary of Navy, writes to Harrison as follows:

> "You will immediately engage Mr. Reich to execute the dies in as reasonable terms as possible." Further, "if you can manage the matter with Reich, it may be well to give a part, the least difficult, to Mr. Fürst. But you will, in either case, endeavor to stipulate with the possible shortest time."
> Reich addresses a letter on November 12, 1814, to Harrison indicating that he has completed the "medals for the Indian department" and is ready to undertake the Navy's

work on medals for Naval officers. It should be noted that the Indian office, on January 16, 1815, reserved further payment to Reich until the dies were done. It is apparent that the Madison dies were not yet completed. From 1815 to 1817 I found no evidence of letters or other material on the Decatur medals. On June 2, 1817, Secretary of Navy writes George Harrison indicating that he wants Fürst to be employed with "little delay" and if Reich's Decatur die has not progressed too far, the transfer to Fürst should be affected. He also says that Decatur wishes this to be done.

On June 4, 1817, Fürst promptly reacts to the letter to Crowninshield, Secretary of the Navy,

"Dear Sir: I just received a letter which you did me the honor of writing to me the second instant. I went directly to Mr. Harrison where I found two impressions already made by Mr. Reich for the medal intended for Commodore Decatur. I expect they will soon be in your hands and you will be able to judge of them yourself."

On the 6th of June, Crowninshield writes Harrison saying he should pay off Reich and put the work in the hands of Fürst - "who will also finish the die for Decatur's medal".

Crowninshield follows this with a letter dated June 7 to Harrison that summarizes much in a few words —

"The impressions of the dies engraved by Mr. Reich for Commodore Decatur's Medal are received, the execution of the rev. is approved and you will subsequently pay Mr. Reich for this part of the work; but the impression purporting to be a profile likeness of Com. Decatur is so extravagantly wretched and so very far beneath the style of respectable caricature that payment for the die of the profile will not be sanctioned by the Department. Place the portrait of Com. Decatur in the hands of Mr. Fürst that he may prepare a die to be used with that engraved by Mr. Reich for the rev., and it will be proper to suggest to Mr. Fürst the propriety of endeavoring to improve the manner of his Marine representations as the view of the ships executed by Mr. Reich is considered preferable to those done by Mr. Fürst."

On June 19, 1817, William Read (substituting for Harrison) advised Reich that the Secretary of Navy had approved the reverse but disapproved the obverse. Then followed a letter by Reich to Read which was received June 12, 1817 wherein he admits to the undesirability of the obverse and agrees to accept four hundred dollars ($400.00) for the reverse die. Following this exchange, Benjamin Homans, writing to Harrison accepts the arrangement between Harrison and Reich. On October 15, 1817, Fürst writes to Crowninshield "I send you hereby an impression of the reverse of the medal Commodore Decatur which I was obliged to over-cut because Mr. Reich's dye (sic) went to pieces at hardening. If you should find any imperfections on the impressions, this will be the fault of the polisher of the dies, because we cannot get it fine enough, but it will show everything destined and fine on the medal." (Julian says "Eckfeldt attempted to harden Reich's Rev. and it shattered: Fürst then recut the Rev. using the same design." When Fürst arranged to cut dies his "plus" was to harden <u>his own dies</u>!!!) He further asks for Crowninshield to use his influence on G. Harrison Esq. "to make a regular contract with me (Fürst) for the other medals which remain to be executed." A marginal note says this letter "Rec'd 12th June 1817" and mailed to William Read in the absence of Harrison.

"I have received your note of the inst. and regret that the Portrait of the Medal for Commodore Decatur is not so executed as to meet the approbation of the Secretary of the Navy. I acknowledge it is not so as I would wish it to be, and therefore submit to the refusal of it. — To explain the different causes would be too long and too painful for

me. — The principal, however, is the extreme weekness (sic) of my eyes, which have already made me refuse all work of this kind and could not execute any more to my satisfaction, — But as the Secretary of the Navy approves of the Reverse Die, I'd be willing to take the half of the amount for it, that is four hundred dollars ($400.00)."

Respectfully,

JNO. Reich
P.S. I thank you to return the box with the impressions."

In this letter by Reich just quoted above, I think it produces clear evidence of the reason that Reich left the Mint on March 31, 1817 — not because of a salary dispute but because of the failure of his eyesight. I also have the feeling that this points up the possibility that some of the cent obverses that had been attributed to Robert Scot were possibly done by Reich.

Plate 7
Thomas Truxton
NA•2 Julian
Struck at U.S. Mint in gold, silver, copper and white metal,
size 57mm

Courtesy TAMS and Robert Julian

Plate 8
Preble Medal
NA•3 Julian
Struck in U.S. Mint in gold, silver, copper
size 40mm

Courtesy of TAMS and Robert Julian

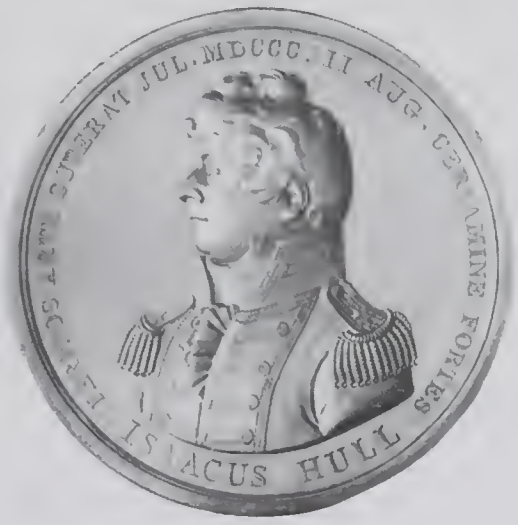


Plate 9
Issac Hull
Julian NA•12
Struck at U.S. Mint in gold, silver & copper
size 65mm

Courtesy of TAMS and Robert Julian

INDIAN PEACE MEDALS

THOMAS JEFFERSON — INDIAN PEACE MEDAL

William Irvine, superintendent of military stores in Philadelphia, was responsible for the negotiations with the Mint, Elias Boudinot and Robert Scot in April of 1801, for the design execution of dies and production of medals, for the Jefferson Indian Peace Medal.

Since medal dies must be cut at noon or at night, so as not to disturb the regular process of the Mint, the execution of the dies were delayed. It took until 12-1-1801 for Irvine to be advised of die completion and even then it was not until 12-22-1801 that some medals were sent to the war department. A letter dated 12-29-1801 addressed to President Jefferson and written by Henry Voigt, chief coiner at the Mint, says and I quote, "At that time there were several medallions wanted for the Indian Nations. But unfortunately, Mr. Scot, the engraver to the Mint, had contracted for the execution of them. He was, however, induced at the instance of the director, to employ Mr. Reich, under him, to do the work, but the compensation that he (JMR) received was barely sufficient to defray his necessary expenses."

Scot was paid $364.00 for three sets of dies on the Jefferson work, some of which must have been paid to JMR. How much is unknown.

In addition to the Voigt letter, other facts seem to suggest a clear statement that JMR did the Jefferson dies. First, there is the similarity of the Thomas Jefferson inaugural and the Thomas Jefferson Peace Medal. Both busts following the Houdon bust.

Second, the fact that Adam Eckfeldt, who later succeeded Henry Voigt as chief coiner at the Mint, hardened and polished the dies, supports the JMR execution, since that was JMR's usual practice.

Third, it is considered by most unlikely that Scot could have executed the evident skill that JMR displayed.

All three of the different size Jefferson medals as originals were hollow. (Robert Julian reports that Byron Johnson says that at least one with a wooden core was found in the Pacific Northwest.) The silver originals, obverse and reverse, were struck on thin silver sheets and the edges brazed and enclosed in a band.

PRESIDENT JAMES MADISON — INDIAN PEACE MEDAL

In the book by Francis Paul Prucha, entitled "Indian Peace Medals in American History", he adequately describes the first efforts on the part of the Secretary of War to produce a Madison Indian Peace Medal. The Secretary of War wrote to Tench Coxe, purveyor of military supplies, asking that he direct the effort to arrange for artists, and methods of minting. In the book he describes Coxe's efforts to secure an artist to produce a profile of Madison with no success. His service with the War Department finally ended before he was able to do anything, and the job was turned over to General John Mason, superintendent of Indian trade. Mason secured the interest of a friend in Philadelphia named John Vaughan who was a long time secretary of the American Philosophical Society and a well known business man of the community. In a letter dated February 22, 1814, written by Mason to Vaughan, reference is made to the fact that John Reich was hired to execute three different sets of dies for a price which seemed high, but acceptable if approved by Robert Patterson (Supt. of the Mint).

Vaughan had trouble finding an artist in Philadelphia who would or could produce a profile of Madison which would be acceptable for the medal striking. Eventually an Italian located in Washington D.C. called Giuseppi Franzoni was secured as the artist. (August 26, 1812, Mason to Vaughan) He was asked first to make casts of Madison's profile but said he could not do it. His specialty was working with busts as a sculptor. He did complete such a bust, done in hard wax. After that bust was dried and packed, it was to be sent to Philadelphia for the use of Reich as a model for the medal. As an aside, John Vaughan had indicated that he would donate the bust to the American Philosophical Society when it had served its purpose. A check with the Society, a check with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, with the National Portrait Gallery: No luck. However, I learned in correspondence with a descendant of Franzoni who has made a study of the family, that his theory is that the bust served its purpose and since it was dry wax and not of stone, it subsequently disintegrated and was discarded. (The correspondent descendant of Franzoni was Albert B. G. Iardella.)

In a letter from Mason to John Vaughan, May 9, 1812, he indicates that the Jefferson medals had been struck on plates and then joined, but that this was not their wish for the Madison Medal. They wanted it to be solid and hard. He asked for three sizes of dies, enclosed sketches of the legends which he wishes, asking if Philadelphia has the equipment to strike the medals and compliments the result of the Commodore Preble Medal as being exceedingly well done.

On May 27, 1812 letter to Vaughan, Mason asks for the legends or mottos to be so arranged on each side that a small hole may be made through the medal exactly over the head of the President. (so as to suspend it erect when worn by the Chief's) — without interfering with the letters. As we know, a small circle was included in the dies and thus in the medals but it did interfere with the legends.

On the 19th of December 1812, Mason indicates criticism of the reverse of the Jefferson Medals because the Indian wrist has been wrapped with a Federal Eagle and asked that this be corrected.

January 25, 1813, Mason says that the bust is "yet here". (Washington D.C.) It is so large and heavy that it can only be put in the middle of the stage coach and must be very particularly attended to on the route. By February 22, 1814, Mason to Vaughan indicates that the bust has arrived in Philadelphia uninjured and is okayed for use. Since Madison had been inaugurated in 1809 and it was now 1814, without a medal a question of the date was discussed and finally decided to be 1809. In August, Mason is worried because he has not received delivery of the medals and suggests the possibility of getting an inferior hand to finish the reverses in the hopes that delivery and completion can be expedited. The Secretary of the Navy is anxious to employ the same artist and in haste and suggests that Reich speed up his work if at all possible.

August 21, 1814, Vaughan to Mason indicates "I was very sorry to learn by it (your letter 11 August) the accident which has happened to Mr. Reisch (sic) in his work on our dies." There is no indication as to what the accident was. By November 1, Mason's letter to Vaughan indicates that he has received a cast of both the middle and the small die and if the large dies are not yet started or incomplete, maybe it would be a good idea to give up the striking of this size. In the same letter I quote "he will let us have one thousand dollars. I will contrive soon to get the funds to you to pay the artists and workman the advance you require." On November 8, 1814, Mason recommends paying Reich $150.00 to whom they owe $333.33 we quote "it will be politic to pay him no more for the present." Mason kept pressing the mint, kept pressing Vaughan, in order to secure copies of the medals for distribution to the Indians. Finally on December 17, 1814, Mason to Vaughan, he states that he has

received 12 medals of the larger size in a little box by mail. In this case, larger means the middle size. By the 19th of December, Mason to Vaughan, he has received another box of 12 medals of the "middle size". On the 6th of January, 1815, Mason to Patterson, he states that he has received 100 of the middle size and 103 of the smaller size and records a promise from Patterson that the largest dies can now be finished in six weeks or less. In a letter, Mason to Vaughan, he says "I take your advice and reserve payment to Mr. Reich until they are done, immediately on which you may assure him, his account shall be settled and paid." On April 1st, Mason to Patterson, he is begging for help, first to get 75 more medals of the smallest size, 75 of the middle size, and "I will beg of you to have 50 of the largest size struck in the first instance." On April 27, Mason writes Patterson, saying that he is going to send Mr. Bronaugh, principal clerk of his office, to Philadelphia in a day to procure, pack and send other supplies as well as the medals that are available. He writes Vaughan on the same date, April 27, 1815, telling him of Mr. Bronaugh's expected visit in 4 or 5 days and adds that he will settle and pay off Mr. Reich's account at that time. Evidently as a result of this prodding, Reich and Patterson produced 3 boxes of 12 each, 1 box of 15 for a total of 51 large medals which he records as having been received May 1, 1815. He also advises that Bronaugh is in Philadelphia and will call and settle all accounts which for Reich would be the balance $850.00 due on the $1000.00 for the three sets of dies.

With this payment expected by the end of April 1815 to JMR, he becomes free to begin work on the Naval Medal for Decatur.

June 20, 1815, Mason to Patterson indicates that he has just received 62 medals of the largest size.

Robert Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Indian Office 21st Nov. 1815

Sir,

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 16th instant as also the three small medals you mention sent by Mr. Eckfeldt made from the balance of Silver after the former delivery the small and final residue of the Silver turned over to Mr. Eckfeldt as his compensation for the workmanship of the 7 last medals as stated by you, not before paid for, as considered as approved by you properly disposed of. Be pleased to accept my thanks for your polite attention to the Execution and forwarding these Medals and to be assured of the respect and consideration with which I am

Sir yr very obt ser
J M R

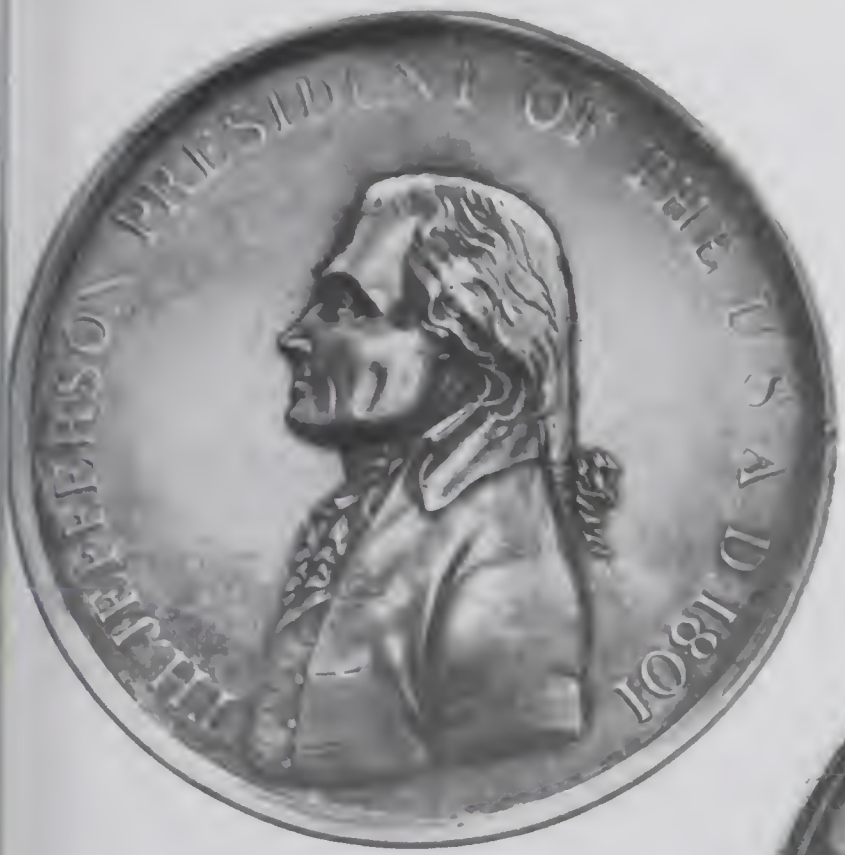


Plate 10

Thomas Jefferson

Peace Medal large size 103m

NA•1P 2

Struck U.S. Mint in silver, copper and white metal also in size 76mm and 50mm

Courtesy of TAMS and Robert Julian

Plate 11

James Madison

Indian Peace Medal 76mm

Julian 1P•5

Struck U.S. Mint in silver and copper size 62mm

Courtesy of TAMS and Robert Julian

MEDALS — COMMEMORATIVE
JEFFERSON INAUGURAL

"December 29, 1801

Sir,

The citizens of Philadelphia, friends to our government and your administration have often expressed a desire of seeing a medallion struck to commemorate the declaration of Independence and the past triumph of republicanism on the 4th March, 1801 - and I know that not only the citizens of the state but every true patriot in the union would be pleased to have these (Epochs?) handed down to posterity. Happily for all our wishes at this time there was found a German artist of superior talents equal to do justice to our ideas - but it was not enough that America should be free - this German artist must also obtain his liberty before anything could be done. It was not long after I heard of his situation that this was accomplished - and you will please to recollect that he then endeavored to recommend himself to your notice, by a specimen of his work, (via) two Medallions of (Block?) tin, one of Bonaparte and the other the present King of Prussia, and you had the goodness to recommend him to the Director of the Mint.

At that time there were several medallions wanted for the Indian Nations; but, unfortunately Mr. Scot, the engraver to the Mint, had contracted for the execution of them. He was, however, induced at the instance of the Director, to employ Mr. Reich, under him, to do the work, but the compensation that he received was barely sufficient to defray his necessary expenses. Having completed those dies he became as destitute as ever. I therefore suggested to him the (propriety?) and proposed to him the plan of executing the Medallion which we have now jointly the honor of presenting for your inspection. I have supported him while he was employed in sinking the Dies, and he is to have half the profits that may accrue from their sale, which I think will be rapid and extensive when we consider the exquisite workmanship and the subject.

These, sir, were the motives which induced me to bring forward this Medallion, first to please our friends, and second to retain in the country such a valuable acquisition as the artist. I hope, Sir, you will pardon us if we have taken too much liberty in representing you on the medallion, without first having obtained (leave?). The faults it may have, as to likeness in character, the artist may well be excused for, since he never had the pleasure of seeing the original.

I beg leave to explain the allegories representations on the reverse - The goddess Minerva is made to represent liberty as well as wisdom (The one not being able to exist without the other), She holds the declaration of Independence, and lays it on a rock, representing the Constitution, about which winds the Cornucopia, and discharges its Treasure, under the protection of the implements and insignia of war. The eagle on his wing represents the United States, crowning the whole with laurel.

Should the artist meet with suitable encouragement in this first essay, he will certainly come forward with additional proofs of his genius in the same line. He is an excellent draughtsman himself, and wants no further assistance than the impression for this Medal the Director has granted the use of one of the presses when it is not employed about the business of the Mint. But it would be more satisfactory still, if you would add your approbation if it - be done, consistent with propriety.

With due respect,

Your most obedient son,

Henry Voigt

To President Thomas Jefferson"

In Voigt's 12-29-1801 letter to President Jefferson, he clearly states that JMR executed the Jefferson Peace Medals on a sub-contract basis.

Voigt supported JMR while executing the dies of the Jefferson Memorial.

In the December 29, 1801 letter by Henry Voigt to President Jefferson, he states among other things that he and JMR formed a partnership involving the design and execution, striking and sale of the captioned medal. He states that Reich designed the reverse but does not suggest the source of the obverse bust. In a letter by Jefferson dated March 29, 1802, he states in the closing lines, "I enclose two medals. They are taken from Houdon's bust."

This ad appeared in the General Advertiser February 17, 1802, and ran six days a week between February 17, 1802 and November 16, 1802. The frequency of the ad and the scarcity of the medals somehow don't seem to match, but I have concluded that there were so many memorials to Jefferson at the time of his inaugural, that the market had been well satisfied with recollections of his elevation to the Presidency.

TO THE AMATEURS OF THE FINE ARTS

A STRIKING LIKENESS
of
THOMAS JEFFERSON
President of the United States

On a Medallion, executed by Mr. Reish (sic), the celebrated German Artist to commemorate, at once, the AEra of American Independence, and the Auspicious day, which raises Mr. Jefferson to the dignity of President over a free people.

On the reverse of this elegant medallion are represented emblematical figures in a style of workmanship never equalled before in this country, and excelled in none.

I will depend upon the encouragement Mr. Reish (sic) meets with, in this first exhibition of his talents in this country, whether he will reside in America or return to Europe. The patriots who wish to preserve the remembrance of American independence, and the elevation of Thomas Jefferson as well as to retain a valuable artist may be supplied with medallions on Silver or white metal at the Aurora Book Store and no where else in Philadelphia

Silver Medallions, ... D4 1-4
White Metal do, ... 1 1-4
February 17, dtf

SANSOM/REICH

John Ford has shared with me a Silver case that encloses 3 Sansom/Reich Medals. The inscription on the front reads "Medallic History of the American Revolution" and in a small circle "Philadelphia 1805."

The reverse of the holder case is inscribed "Designed by J. Sansom, engraved by Reich."

The medals encased in Bezels are Baker 58, Baker 71, and Betts 546.

Since the medals in the case described the designer and eventually the promoter Joseph Sansom of Philadelphia, I thought it appropriate to give a short recount of the background of Sansom. He was born in Philadelphia 2/13/1767 into a wealthy merchant Quaker family. He died October 4, 1826. Quoting from an article by Charles Coleman Sellers, in Pennsylvania of History and Biography, October 1964, "Sansom attended a Quaker-sponsored conference with the Five Nations in 1796. In 1798, after his marriage to Beulah Biddle, they set out together on a three year tour abroad, recorded by both in collections of letters."

William Dunlap, wrote in his diary, the following statement regarding his impression of Sansom. "Some days ago, a traveling quaker, a traveller and a writer of a book of travels, called to see my friend Brown, & I was introduced to *friend* Samson. (sic) Anxious to have his book praised in Browns Magazine he made his remarks and enquiries all tending to that point, but accompanied with a truly quaker self-sufficiency. I do not know wether (sic) you know what I mean, but I think there is a kind of priggish self-full smiling impudence, which is peculiar to the vain of the sect. Such a one is friend Samson (sic). He is large, florid, healthful, rich, has travel'd in England France & Italy; talks of Authors and Artists; has a collection of pictures; and is any thing but a wit, a Connoisseur, or a gentleman. Perhaps I am too severe. It is best to believe I am. Brown carried me to see his collection of pictures, The best is a small picture about 2 foot by 1, said to be by Reubens. I never saw anything so small by Reubens. Be it whose it may it is very fine. The subject, Christ paying the tribute money, "Give (or render) unto Caeser that which is Caesers." He has a Magdalen said to be by Guido and some sea pieces & Landscapes."

As a result of Sansom's travels, he placed an ad in the Philadelphia Gazette, December 15, 1802, directed "to the patrons of American Literature proposals for publishing by subscriptions letters from Europe." On a many line statement he indicated that the letters which he had directed to his home during his European grand tour would be published if there were 500 subscriptions to the two volume sets. Subscription orders could be taken according to the ad at principal book sellers in Philadelphia, the Philadelphia library, Boston, Mass., New York City, Albany, Baltimore, Washington D.C., and Charleston, SC. The subscription total must have been received because the volumes were produced under the title "Letters from Europe during a tour through Switzerland and Italy in the years 1801 and 1802." The issue date was 1805.

In the ads which proclaimed the medals of his design and Reich's execution, referred to a "person of taste" who had designed the pieces. He, Joseph Sansom was this man. In addition he was known for silhouettes, which he produced in some quantity and because of the design of the medals and the silhouette work he was elected to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and to the American Philosophical Society. He also served in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives during 1805 — 1806. He worked on a committee for education and presented petitions in favor of a turnpike.

The original concept of the Sansom series was four medals, Baker on page 37 describes his idea of the set as Baker 57, which was the first of the series issued and is known as the CCAUS. Others in the Baker concept of the four included Franklin and the Beaver Reverse, Betts 546. Next, George Washington/Benjamin Franklin obverse with the eagle over the globe reverse known as Baker 58 and finally Baker 71, dated 1797, with the George Washington obverse and the reverse referring to Presidency relinquished and commission resigned.

Robert Julian and his book on Mint medals lists six different pieces as Reich work and Sansom design. He lists three of them as Sansom series pieces instead of four as did Baker. The three are PR-1 which is Baker 71, CM-4 which is Baker 54, CM-5 which is Baker 58. There are three more which he lists but does not say that they are Sansom series medals, although they include the dies of the Sansom series in a different mixture. These three include CM-6 which is Baker 57, the CCAUS piece, CM-7 which is Betts 621 with a Franklin obverse and eagle reverse, and CM-8 which is Betts 546 with the Benjamin Franklin obverse and the Beaver reverse.

In George Fulds article in the Numismatist December 1956 regarding Franklin medals, he lists four pieces of Sansom which are his numbers FR.M.UN.1 that equals Betts 546, the second one is FR.M.UN.2 which is Betts 621, the next is FR.M.UN.3 which is Baker 58 and the last one is FR.M.UN.4 which is Betts 549, the Washington — Franklin obverse with the Beaver reverse, also known as Baker 54. In his list he includes only items that relate to Franklin and thus does not record the possibility that Baker 57 and Baker 71 which are Washington pieces only, are part of the series. Actually Betts 621 which is the Fuld UN.2 and Julian CM.7 has an obverse which is not Reich nor Sansom. It is Benjamin Franklin as a young man in a loose cap. It does, however, have the reverse of the eagle over globe, which is Sansom/Reich.

Georgia Stamm Chamberlain wrote in the Numismatist a short statement of Reich's life and referred to the Sansom series as including Baker 54, Baker 57, Baker 58, and Baker 71. She does list two Franklin medals but does not call them Sansom.

Wayte Raymond, in his Coin Collector series number 4 — 1941, lists the following: he shows number 14 as the American Beaver, Baker 54 and calls it Sansom; he lists number 15, Baker 57, the CCAUS — no mention of Sansom; number 16, Baker 58 — Washington Franklin obverse eagle reverse with no mention of Sansom; and number 17, "The Sansom medal", Baker 71.

Sansom/Reich Medal Chart

	Baker	Julian	Fuld	Betts
GW/BF obv/Beaver Rev	B•54	CM•4	FR.M.UN•4	Betts 549
GW/CCAUS obv/Eagle over Globe Rev	B•57	CM•6	---	-----
GW/BF obv/Eagle over Globe Rev	B•58	CM•5	FR.M.UN•3	-----
GW Right obv/Commiss-Resigned Presidency Relinq. Rev	B•71	PR•1	---	-----
BF obv./Eagle over globe Rev	---	CM•7	FR.M.UN•1	Betts 546

In the author's opinion there are 4 obverses and 3 reverses. Betts 621 has a JMR Rev. with an non JMR obv. I am unaware of its existence.

The two letters following record request to use Mint Machinery for Sansom/Reich Medals

"Robert Patterson Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia, PA

Department of State
October 18, 1805

Mr. Joseph Sansom of Philadelphia being desirous of using the machinery of the Mint for striking a medal of General Washington you will be pleased to indulge him with the permission at such time and to such a degree, as may not materially interfere with the public work.

Sincerely,

James Madison"

"Mr. Madison presents his compliments to Mr. Sansom and endorses a letter to the Director of the Mint continuing permission to use the machinery of the mint as desired

Department of State
October 18, 1805"

James Madison

The Joseph Sansom/John Reich George Washington medal is 40 mm. in diameter, has a plain rim and edge with non-flip dies. The obverse depicts George Washington in civilian dress facing right with the legend G. WASHINGTON PRES. UNIT. STA. The reverse displays a sword, fasces and laurel wreath resting on a partially draped pedestal. The peripheral legend reads COMMISS. RESIGNED: PRESIDENCY RELINQ., with the date 1797 shown in the exergue.

Joseph Sansom was a member of a wealthy, influential, Philadelphia family who returned from a European tour ca. December 1802. He then decided to commemorate the American Revolution with a series of medals of his design. This piece, as the others, was executed by John Reich. No word has surfaced yet as to the terms of John M. Reich's price for the work, when he was hired, or the length of time required to execute this medal but Sansom arranged an advertisement in "Poulson's American Daily Advertiser," October 8, 1806:

"FINE ARTS"
"The Retirement of Washington"
"A Silver Medal"

"Commemorative of the most brilliant Epoch of American History has just been executed upon the designs of a person of taste by that celebrated Artist, John Reich — the likeness from a drawing of Stuart's sketched on purpose.

"Face"
"A Head of Washington as President
Inscription
"G. Washington Pres. Unit. Sta.

"Reverse"
"The ensigns of Authority (civil and Military) deposited
in laurels, upon the tablet of the United States

"Inscription"
Commis. Resigned. Presidency Relinquished

"Date 1797"

"We feel no hesitation announcing this medal as the most splendid monument that has been erected to the memory of Washington. An impression of it may be seen at the Book Store of James Humphreys on Change Walk, where Gentlemen who with to possess so elegant a memento of the man to whom America is chiefly indebted for her freedom and prosperity , will leave their names, within ten days, as the dies are to be sent to Europe after a small number have been struck off for the probable demand of the United States. For the gratification of the curious, the original sketch of the portrait will be left at the office, a few days".

The following paragraphs are quoted from Julian's "Medals of the United States Mint" with permission of the Token and Medal Society.

"The advertisement answers some questions and raises others:

1. Sansom clearly states that the George Washington bust is after Gilbert Stuart "sketched on purpose".

2. It offers medals in silver only, yet we know original die pieces are found in bronze and white metal. This is confirmed by a November 26, 1807, advertisement in the American Daily Advertiser where all three metals are offered for sale.

3. One can wonder if the dies were sent to Europe as suggested.

"Empirical evidence tells us (1) there are three metals, silver, bronze, and white metal; (2) original die strikes are most easily recognized by the heavy recutting of the figure 9 in the date; and (3) the earliest original die strikes are further identified by a broad single collar mark.

"Baker says that the Halliday version of this design was the original and that the Sansom/Reich piece was a copy. This seems unlikely since the Sansom advertisement appeared in October 1806 and, according to Forrer in his Biographical Dictionary of Medalists (1904), Halliday's first recorded work came in 1810. Further, Forrer attributes 1816 as the year of Halliday's George Washington medal issuance. In addition, Sansom advertises the medal as his design with the George Washington bust sketched "on purpose" by Stuart (Note: the preceding section on the original Presidency Relinquished medal was written by Stewart P. Witham, who has spent several years studying the medals of John Reich and this one in particular.)

"The original dies were hubbed in 1859, according to Baker, to form new dies. Since that time the Presidency Relinquished medal has been struck on a regular basis for collectors, first being publicly sold in October, 1861. Although Witham points out a sure way of determining an original from a restrike (recutting of the figure 9 in the date 1797) it has been traditional, though less exact, to determine the difference by the distance of the Q in RELINQ. from the pedestal on the original it is closer."

Excerpt from

U.S. GAZETTE - Philadelphia

Third Page - December 28, 1805

"For the United States' Gazette."

"A medal, worthy of the illustrious Washington, has been at length executed in Philadelphia, by a German artist, (J. Reich) upon the designs of a person or taste, under the inspection of the director of the mint, the librarian of the philosophical society, and other gentlemen of professional ability, or acknowledged judgement.

Proof impressions, in gold and silver, are now submitted to public examination, at the book store of John Conrad & Company where subscriptions will be received for the same,

In gold, at 50 dollars
silver, at 5

deliverable, as nearly as possible, in the order of subscription, on the 31st day of March next.

DESCRIPTION

The Face — a head of General Washington, in his uniform.

Inscription — General Washington, C.C.A.U.S. (Commander in Chief of the Armies of the United States.)

Reverse — Under the date of the acquisition of independence, the American Eagle, with the thunderbolt in its claws, and the olive branch in its beak, descending upon the section of the globe, on which the United States are delineated by their natural boundaries.

N.B. Gentlemen who wish to possess, or to patronize, this interesting memento of national gratitude, will please to remark, that the subscription will be closed on the 30th of March, after which time no more impressions will be taken in the precious metals.

Dec. 28. law4w."

This is an ad in the Aurora, Tuesday, December 1, 1807.

"History and the Fine Arts.

Yesterday

Were presented to Geo. Clymer, Esq. and Dr. Benjamin Rush, as surviving members of the Congress that declared the INDEPENDENCE OF AMERICA, fine impressions of the Medal, lately struck in Philadelphia, in commemoration of that splendid event

OBVERSE

A HEAD ON BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
taken from "Hudson's" * bust
Inscription
Lightning averted — Tyranny Repell'd

REVERSE

THE AMERICAN BEAVER
nibbling at

the Overshadowing Oak of the British
Power
On the Western Continent

Date — 1776

December 1 dtf"

* The Hudson spelling in the ad was an error and was subsequently corrected to Houdon. This particular covered the availability of a Sansom item now known as Betts 546.

Joseph Sansom, in December of 1808 transmits to President elect Madison. A "proof" impression of the medal which concludes his historical series upon the American Revolution. It commemorates the peace of 1783 as acquired by the joint efforts of great patriots, Franklin and Washington.

WASHINGTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY MEDAL

This medal is described in other publications known as Baker 327 and Julian RF 23. The Society was formed in 1808 or 1809 and designed to contest the growing power of the Tammany Society. The medal was engraved by John Reich, and struck in silver at the US Mint. Details relating to its design are unknown but it is clear that it is one of the more attractive of the JMR medals. Material on the Society can be found in the "proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, March 1916."

I have found nothing that relates to the design, the manufacturer, nor the cost of the medal.

Plate 12
George Washington/Ben Franklin
Eagle over Globe
Julian CM•5
Baker 58
Fuld FR.N.UN.3
Struck at U.S. Mint in silver and copper
size 41mm

Courtesy TAMS and Robert Julian

Plate 13
George Washington C.C.A.U.S.
Commander in Chief of the Army of the United States
Sansom Series 41mm
Baker 57
Julian CM•6
Struck at U.S. Mint in silver
size 41mm

Courtesy of the Smithsonian Institute

Julian PR. 2
*Ford IX: 3 ($32,500 hammer) - $37,380
5/2005
Ch. PR.
Silver
2nd lot of 4
(22K hammer)

Plate 14
Thomas Jefferson
Dewitt 1800 - 1
Julian PR•2
Struck U.S. Mint in silver, copper and white metal
size 45mm

Courtesy TAMs and Robert Julian

* Ford IX: 6 $18,000 hammer
AU, white metal)
* Ford IX: 5 $4500 hammer ($5175)
F, holed
silver
(OK
inventory
5/2010)

Plate 15
Washington Benevolent Society
Baker 327
Julian RF•23
Struck at U.S. Mint in silver
size 42mm

Courtesy TAMS and Robert Julian

Plate 16

George Washington/Ben Franklin

Beaver

Baker 54

Julian CM•4

Fuld FR.M.UN.4

Struck in U.S. Mint in silver and copper

size 41mm

Courtesy TAMS and Robert Julian

Plate 17

George Washington 1797

Baker 71

Julian PR•1

Struck at U.S. Mint in silver, copper, white metal and alumninum

size 40mm

Courtesy TAMS and Robert Julian

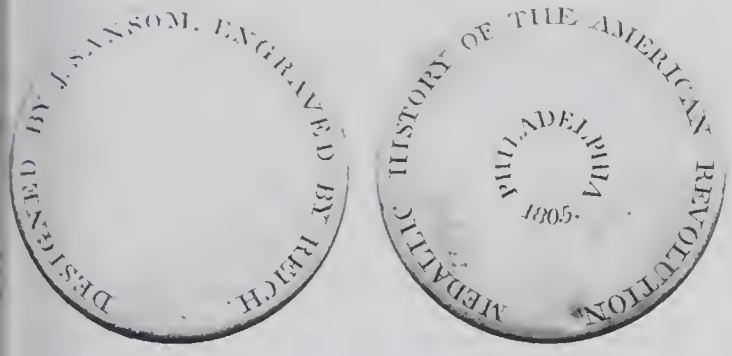
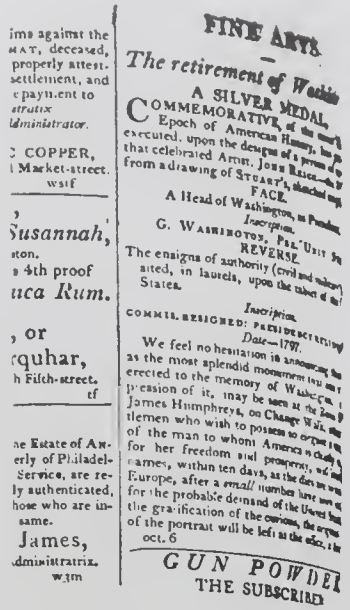


Plate 18

By permission of John Ford Jr.,

Sansom/Reich Medals, Betts 546, Baker 58 and B•71 apparently equal to those donated to the American Philosophical Society on 4-6-1810 by Joseph Sansom.



ims against the
MAT, deceased,
properly attest-
settlement, and
e payment to
stratrix
dministrator.

: COPPER,
l Market-street.
wstf

,
Susannah,
ston.
s 4th proof
uca Rum.

, or
rquhar,
h Fifth-street.
tf

ne Estate of An-
erly of Philadel-
Service, are re-
ly authenticated,
hose who are in-
same.
James,
dministratrix.
w3m

FINE ARTS.

The retirement of Washi

A SILVER MEDAL,

COMMEMORATIVE, of the [illegible] Epoch of American Hungry, has [illegible] executed, upon the designs of a person of [illegible] that celebrated Artist, JOHN REICH—the [illegible] from a drawing of STUART's, [illegible]

FACE.

A Head of Washington, as President.

Inscription.

G. WASHINGTON, PRE. UNIT [illegible]

REVERSE.

The ensigns of authority (civil and military) [illegible] sited, in laurels, upon the tablet of the [illegible] States.

Inscription.

COMMIS. RESIGNED: PRESIDENCY RESIGNED

Date—1797.

We feel no hesitation in announcing [illegible] as the most splendid monument that [illegible] erected to the memory of Washington, [illegible] pression of it, may be seen at the Zoo [illegible] James Humphreys, on Change Walk, [illegible] tlemen who wish to possess so [illegible] of the man to whom America is chiefly [illegible] for her freedom and prosperity, [illegible] names, within ten days, as the dies are [illegible] Europe, after a *small* number have [illegible] for the probable demand of the United [illegible] the gratification of the curious, the [illegible] of the portrait will be left at the office, [illegible]

oct. 6

GUN POWDE[illegible]

THE SUBSCRIBE[illegible]

Plate 19

B•71

Poulson's American Daily

Advertiser 10-9-1806

advertisement

TO THE AMATEURS OF THE FINE ARTS

A STRIKING LIKENESS

OF

THOMAS JEFFERSON,

PRESIDENT OF THE U. STATES;

ON a *Medallion*, executed by Mr. REICH, the celebrated German Artist, to commemorate, at once, the Æra of American Independence, and the auspicious day, which raised Mr. JEFFERSON, to the dignity of President over a free people.

On the reverse of this elegant medallion, are represented emblematical figures, in a style of workmanship never equalled before in this country, and excelled in none.

It will depend upon the encouragement Mr Reich meets with, in this first exhibition of his talents in this country, whether he will reside in America, or return to Europe. The patriots who wish to preserve the remembrance of American independence, and the elevation of Thomas Jefferson, as well as to retain a valuable artist, may be supplied with medallions on Silver or White Metal, at the Aurora Book-Store, and no where else in Philadelphia.

Silver Medallions, - - - - - - -	D4 1-4
White Metal, do. - - - - - - -	1 1-4

February 17 dtf

Plate 20

Jefferson Inaugural and

25th Anniversary of Declaration

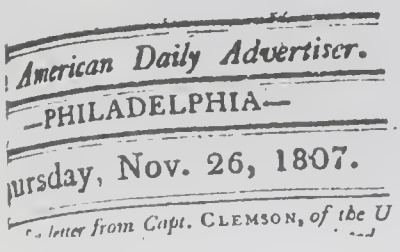
of Independence Medal

Dewitt 1801 TJ

ad "General Advertiser"

(Phil)

February 2, 1802 through November 16, 1802



American Daily Advertiser.

—PHILADELPHIA—

ursday, Nov. 26, 1807.

letter from Capt. CLEMSON, *of the U*

HISTORICAL MEDALS,

(Struck at Philadelphia, by private order.)

SUPERB Medals of *Benjamin Franklin*, and *George Washington*, the former upon *the Declaration of Independence*, the latter upon *the Retirement of Washington*—A third is intended, upon the *Acquisition of Independence*, at the peace of '83; which will complete a *series*, upon the happy establishment of

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION,

Including a period of thirty years.

Impressions may be had in silver, bronze, and white metal, at CHAUDRON's, in Third street.

Nov 26 saw3t

Plate 21

advertisement

American Daily

Advertiser

11-26-1807

offering Sansom "Historical Medals"

MEDALS — OTHER

JMR wrote Thomas Jefferson on 1-3-1803 saying, "I have lately executed another of the Masonic kind;" "another" suggests at least one other Masonic Medal.

Then what appears to be an excerpt of a Jefferson letter to JMR - "Thomas Jefferson presents his salutations and thanks to Mr. Reich for the Masonic Medal he was so kind to send him, and which is another proof of the superior talents of Mr. Reich in that art."
1-23-1808 Thomas Jefferson

In 1880 Marvin produced an exhaustive study of Masonic medals. There were only 160 copies printed. I find only one reference to Reiche on page 157 note 252. Since this refers to Leipzig, it has to be by the father who attended many of the fairs in Leipsic to sell his goods. In the index of Marvin, there are 22 pieces attributed to G.H. Lovett, 2 to William Key, 2 to Ahlborn, 3 to Merriam, 1 to A.B. Sage, and 1 to Soley.

American Company of Booksellers 1804 proposed medals (1) for American Ink and (2) for Best Specimen of Printing.

$50 Gold medal proposed and won by Jacob Johnson 1802-3
$25 prize for Ink awarded in 1804-1805 to Jacob Johnson —
I have never found one of these medals.

In the 1-16-1811 call "To Artists and Amateurs of the United States" PAFA announced two committees, one of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and the other Society of Artists of the United States, met and arranged for medals to be issued jointly, awarding one for architecture, one for sculpture, one for painting, and one in engraving. There were also to be "secondary medals" to be awarded to the second degree of excellence in each of the branches mentioned above. The medals were to be awarded only for original productions and shall be composed of silver with an annual distribution. The committee for the Society of Artists included Rembrandt Peal, Thomas Sully, Moritz Fürst, and George Murray. Joseph Hopkinson and William Rush represented the Academy. On one side shall be represented a Tortoise, a Hare, and a distant view of The Temple of Fame; encircled with the words "Society of Artists of the United States". On the other side there shall be this inscription round the rim of the Medal "Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts" and in the center "shall be engraved the name of the artist to whom the Medal is awarded."

I have never been able to find a copy of these medals or any reference to their existence.

In the Thomas Westcot History of Philadelphia, references were made to another medal. The story "in 1815 Reich issued proposals for a historical medal to be struck in gold, silver, or bronze — the devices to be drawn by Sully, from the designs of a well known literary character corrected by persons of knowledge, patriotism and taste. The medal was to be two or three inches broad and was to be furnished in gold at $50.00, silver at $10.00, bronze at $1.00." This medal has never surfaced even though it was apparently suggested for a profit making scheme.

Even though I have records of 2 pieces cut by JMR, they are not listed in this exhaustive study.

STEREOTYPE*

While Reich was at the Mint in Philadelphia, he was using punch dies provided by the Starr Brothers, Richard, Edwin, and Henry, who a few years earlier had founded a type founders foundry in Philadelphia. After JMR's resignation from the Mint, he formed a partnership with Richard and Edwin and Christian Danenberg who was a wine merchant in the city of Philadelphia. This partnership was heralded by an ad in the United States Gazette and True American dated June 27, 1818, indicating that Reich, Starr and Company, type-founders at 246 South 7th Street, have since the publication of their specimens, completed double Pica borders.

This ad was followed by a front page ad in Paxton's Philadelphia Annual Advertiser, dated 1819, detailing the name of the firm and it's address in Philadelphia.

Following these ads was a complete detailed publication of the print, varying sizes of designs printed by Maxwell. This material according to Rollo Silver in his book "Type Founding in America in 1787 to 1825" says that Joel Munsell highly extolled the Reich/Starr's punches.

Although they furnished good type, they could not break into the Philadelphia market because of competition from Archibald Binney and James Ronaldson who had formed a type foundry in 1796 in Philadelphia and evidently had the market pretty well cornered. A search of the Pittsburgh papers by my friend Sam Clements, found an ad referring to the dissolution of the partnership in Philadelphia operating under the name Reich, Starr and Company, as of October 8, 1819. Another serious cause of the failure could have been the Financial Panic of 1819. The ad also indicates that the partnership was moved without Danenberg to Pittsburgh and was dissolved on the seventh of June 1820. The ad further states that any indebtedness owed to the firm should be made by payment to John Reich and Edwin Starr who conduct the type foundry under the title of Reich and Starr.

Further to the failure of Reich-Starr, the Pittsburgh papers indicate that Edwin Starr's bankruptcy was filed January 21, 1821, advertised March 28, 1821 with a meeting of the creditors on April 1, 1821. No record of JMR's bankruptcy has been found.

Richard Starr moved to Albany where he set up another stereo type firm about 1826. His having moved there may be the reason that some people thought JMR went there to continue his partnership. There is no evidence of this as I have spelled out elsewhere.

If Reich did live until 1832 in Pittsburgh, the record shows that they had a flood in Pittsburgh that exceeded flood stage by 35 feet and that there was also a cholera epidemic. Either one of these catastrophe's could have been the possible cause of his passing.

* Definition of Stereotype

Stereotype (Ste•rioteip),

1. The method or process of printing in which a solid plate of type-metal, cast from a papier-maché or plaster mould taken from the surface of a forme of type, is used for printing from instead of the forme itself.

1798 Ann. Reg. Chron. 22 The celebrated Didot, the French printer, with a German, named Herman, have announced a new discovery in printing, which they term stereotype. 1809 *Europe Mag.* L.V. 19 The prospectus of almost every work informs us, that the thing will be done in stereotype. ***1816 Q. Rev.*** XV. 345 The introducer of that mode of printing called Stereotype. 1824 J. Johnson *Typogr.* II.xxii. 657 The invention of Stereotype, like that of Printing, is somewhat involved in mystery.

Stereotype, type of printing plate developed in the late 18th century and widely used in letterpress, newspaper, and other high-speed press runs. Stereotypes are made by locking the type columns, illustration plates, and advertising plates of a complete newspaper page in a form and molding a matrix, or mat, of papier-maché or similar material to it; the dried mat is used as a mold to cast the stereotype from hot metal. A stereotype plate is much stronger and more durable under the press run than would be the composed page of type. It is gradually being replaced, however, by photopolymer (photosensitive plastic) and lithographic plates.

Plate 22

Reich and Starr ad on front page

Paxton's Philadelphia Annual Advertiser 1819

TYPE FOUNDRY

OF

REICH, STARR & Co.

No. 246,

South Seventh Street,

PHILADELPHIA.

1819.

Plate 23

"Reich, Starr & Company Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1818 lead page of Specimen of Printing Types"

Plate 24

"2nd page of Printing Types"

SPECIMEN

OF

PRINTING TYPES

BY

REICH, STARR & Co.

STEREOTYPE AND LETTER FOUNDERS,

PHILADELPHIA.

[illegible], PRINTER

1818.

TO THE

PRINTERS

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

GENTLEMEN,

SOME time since we announced, in all the newspapers of this city, our newly established Stereotype and Letter Foundry, and now take the liberty to annex specimens of such of our types as are already on hand. From the liberal encouragement which we have already received from some, and the flattering manner in which our establishment has been noticed by other respectable printers in the principal cities, and other parts of the United States, (to whom we acknowledge our obligation with gratitude) we flatter ourselves that it meets a welcome reception; and that we may confidently look forward to an increase of patronage and support. This it will be our endeavour to merit, both by the beauty and the quality of our types, and by the most punctual attention to all orders with which we may be favoured. It must be readily perceived that a considerable time is required to prepare and finish a complete assortment; but we shall exert our utmost efforts to accomplish this object as speedily as possible: and, in the mean time, should types be wanted, of which we have not, as yet, prepared specimens, we can, and will, upon receiving orders, instantly commence the execution thereof and complete them without delay.

We find ourselves under the necessity of respectfully suggesting that, in the extent of our credit, *we cannot well exceed* four months; and of stating, that in preference *even to that* we would allow a discount of four per cent. for cash. We also beg leave to remark, that orders from a distance should *generally* be made through some responsible mercantile house in this city, who will become liable for the payment. If, by an increase of patronage we should hereafter become enabled to extend our credits, we shall be found as liberal as any others in that respect, especially to such as, by their early support, shall contribute to the means of enabling us to become so.

We remain, most respectfully,

REICH, STARR & Co.

Philadelphia, April 1, 1818.

NEW SERIES, VOL. I. No. 95.

Whole Number Vol. XII. No. 6916

PHILADELPHIA,

Saturday Morning, June 27, 1818.

PUBLISHED BY

BRONSON & SMITH.

UNITED STATES GAZETTE AND TRUE AMERICAN.

Reich, Starr & Co.

TYPE FOUNDERS,

NO. 246, SOUTH SEVENTH STREET,

Have, since the publication of their Specimens, completed

DOUBLE PICA BORDERS

1

2

3

4

Also, a Fount of

SHADED TWO LINE NONPAREIL

OF WHICH THE ABOVE ARE SPECIMENS.

They have on hand, Founts of

Double Pica,

Back Slope English,

Pica,

Small Pica,

Long Primer, No. 1, 2 & 3,

And Brevier.

They are now preparing GREAT PRIMER, ENGLISH, MINION, & NONPAREIL; of which they intend to exhibit Specimens in the same papers. (the UNION and the FRANKLIN GAZETTE) as soon as completed.

In soliciting the patronage of Printers, they assure them that they will always exert themselves to the utmost, in every respect, to deserve it. They also avail themselves of this opportunity, to return their grateful acknowledgments to the writers of the different paragraphs on the merit of their Types, and to the Printers abroad, who have had the kindness to republish them; and particularly to those, who have (*gratuitously*) republished their late advertisements.

N B The above advertisement is composed, entirely, of Types from the Foundery of Reich, Starr, and Co.

☞ The Franklin Gazette, also furnishes a specimen of the Types from that Foundery; the Long Primer, Brevier, and Back Slope, being furnished by R. S. and Co.

June 23. d1in

Plate 25

Reich & Starr ad

United States Gazette and True American 6-27-1818

FLESH AND BLOOD

Little is known about John Reich's personality or his physical characteristics except that which is recorded indirectly in letters and other reported acts of his. I guess the first thing that we can record as relating to his personality was that at the age of 24 he was married at St. Michael's Church in Fürth to a local girl and became a father within four (4) months. It appears indirectly that he did not work very much longer after the marriage and the birth of his child at his father's shop. Sometime shortly after the marriage, having left his father's employ, he went to Dürlach in Baden Baden and entered the shop of Martin Bückle. Nothing has surfaced regarding his work under Bückle. He is recorded as being there through letters which he directed to Colonel Trumbell in London regarding employment in the hope of a partnership to make medals of General Nelson. (sic) This letter indicates how poor he was and his dire straights even unable to make the trip to England to arrange for the Nelson medals. He eventually ended up in Hamburg, Germany, where he boarded the ship Anna and left without his wife or child for the United States. After arriving in the United States, having been indentured to the Captain of the Anna for his passage he wrote at least one letter to Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States appealing to him for work and freedom from his captivity.

He was visited on the Anna by Henry Voigt, chief coiner at the U.S. Mint, who viewed his works and declared them appropriate for an engraver's job in the United States. In JMR's letter to President Jefferson, he indicated that he was the last of the indentured people still on board, all others of his passenger associates having left, but this proves not to be true. In fact, he was at least still accompanied by half of the indentured people on board at the time of his plea to Jefferson indicating that he was alone. Subsequently, indentured to John Brown, a silversmith in Philadelphia, for the fee of a dollar a week for which John Brown paid 20 guineas, he was released from this indenture by Henry Voigt serving only part of a year rather than two of his original indenture. He and Voigt made a partnership to create the medal of Thomas Jefferson's inauguration and commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The medal was in excellent taste and Voigt described it to the President when he sent one to him. The proceeds were to be divided 50/50 between Voigt and JMR but there has been no evidence of an accounting. It seems that he had a debate with all of the people for whom he worked when he made medals or seals. They wanted to pay him less and he insisted that his value as an artist was worth the prices he charged. George Harrison, Secretary of the Navy's representative in Philadelphia, played down Reich's value because he had been an indentured servant. Prior to becoming employed by the Mint at $600.00 a year, he became a Naturalized Citizen, December 7, 1806 recorded at Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

As far as I can determine, he usually used, when in America, a secretary or person if you will, to write his letters for the English was usually acceptable and not mixed up with typical German sentence structure. While in Philadelphia he seemed only to live in boarding houses. There were about six (6) or seven (7) of these which are shown in correspondence as an address where he could be found. When the Society of Artist's was formed around 1810 he was a

charter member. He exhibited several times in the Pennsylvania Academy for the Fine Arts exhibitions but there is no evidence that he ever took part in any of the meetings or served on any of the committees of either organization. William Dunlap in his two (2) volume diary made reference to the fact that JMR loved good music. Thomas Westcott in "A History of Philadelphia" tells us that JMR was a talented performer but does not mention the Instrument.

When he finally submitted the Decatur completed medals to Harrison and to the Navy, there was quick rejection of the obverse stating that it was more a caricature than anything else. The reverse was acceptable for which he was paid $400.00. At that point he admitted that his sight was failing and it was the cause of his inability to do an acceptable portrait of Decatur and also the cause of his resignation from the Mint on 3-31-1817.

JMR's father died in 1814 and he, JMR, was investigated by the Austrian Government for the possibility that he had left Europe as a means of dodging the draft. When it was decided he had not, he became an acceptable heir to the estate of Johann Christian Reich. There is no evidence that he did or did not receive any money. Following his resignation from the Mint he became involved in two business ventures. One in Philadelphia, making stereo type letters. These were used in a new process for the printing industry and produced a reduction in cost. The firm in Philadelphia advertised with a full page ad in the city directory. His association with one of the Starr Brothers did not guarantee success and the business failed.

Dunlap in his diary stated that Reich had gone West. Sam Clements, a good friend, found reference to a Reich/Starr stereo type punch manufacturing business in Pittsburgh. Along with indications that the Philadelphia business had failed, this too became bankrupt and Reich fades from the picture. Many sources have indicated that he went to Albany and died there, but a thorough study of cemeteries, court records, church records, indicates that Reich never lived there and never died there. I have searched through correspondence along the Ohio River including Pittsburgh, Marietta, Louisville, St. Louis, but without luck. Many authors in the past have determined that Reich died in 1833 but William Dunlap with his diary published in 1834, states that the death date was really 1832 "in the West".

There are many things that I did not learn and do not know about John Reichs life. Included are the following: 1) I have no evidence that his wife and or child came to the United States to live with him. 2) I have no evidence that he developed a female friendship in the States or for that matter there seems to be no record of male friends. 3) There seems to be no evidence of his misuse of alcohol. 4) We don't know how well he was clothed. 5) We don't know his eating habits, particularly since one reference suggests that the family brought the meals to the Mint workers at noontime, presumably for security purposes. We don't know who might have supplied his food then. 6) When he was at Bückel's in Durlach, we have no knowledge of any pieces that he made with his own signature, nor in support of his employer.

Regarding addresses at which Reich lived, I have two new ones. They include 1806 at 3 South 6th Street, Philadelphia and in 1819, 78 South 11th Street. In a search of the tax records of the city of Philadelphia, found only one reference to any taxes that he had paid. The

total figure was $.35. The year 1819. The basis for taxes at that time was $.35 per hundred dollars of personal property and if JMR was thought to have had less than $100.00 in personal property he would have paid no taxes.

The yellow fever epidemic visited Philadelphia every year 1797-1804. The Mint was closed Summer and Fall 1797-99 and again 1802-04 — Jacob Bay the 1st engraver, die cutter at the Mint 1792 died of yellow fever in 1793. "Joseph Wright, engraver and Joseph Whitehead an assayer both died in 1793" — The Mint Treasurer Dr. Nicholas Way died 1797.

JMR arriving August 1800 lived through this returning curse.

J. Lithgow, (Author) wrote to TJ 12-24-1804, he says that Reich "was a man of polite manners, pure morals and an admirer of Republican principles."

An incidental on another subject: Quoting from the "History of Pennsylvania," by Thompson Westcot he writes "John Reich whose office was on South 4th Street below Market, in 1806 was a die sinker of skill and taste and was frequently employed by Robert Scott, the engraver of the United States Mint to prepare dies for the National Coin."

On the 22nd of February 1805, there was published in the "Philadelphia Gazette" a communication advising of the establishment of "Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia". A plan of association was adopted on the 26th of December 1805. There were 71 signers of whom 41 were attorneys. They issued stock certificates divided into 30 shares of $100.00 each and selected a lot at the corner of Chestnut Street between 10th and 11th on the North side for their building. Application was made to the legislature of Pennsylvania for a charter which was granted March 17, 1806 and conferred corporate privileges on the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. The building was opened on the 14th of April 1807 and contained an exhibition of current works that subsequently included some of Benjamin West's, who had arrived from London, England. Exhibitions were held in the building and included the work of Reich who brought medals of Washington and Franklin, as well as a silver gilt medal of Commodore Preble, the donation of Tench Coxe. The Academy decided to form a group of the top artists of the time to be known as Academicians. They had groups of sculptors, architects, painters and 3 engravers, including JMR. There was never, apparently, love lost between the socially prominent people who were stock holders in the Academy and the artist Academicians. As a result the artists formed the "Society of Artists" and nominated, the top people as "fellows" and the lower level as associated artists, John Reich, die sinker in the United States Mint was listed as a "fellow". Robert Scot, engraver at the Mint, was not listed. Christian Gobrecht was an associate artist. There had been an attempt to combine the Society of Artists and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts into one cohesive group, but the demands of the Academy were so great that the artists felt insulted.

In the William Dunlap diary, known as "History in the Arts of Design", there is an inclusion by an artist of Philadelphia wherein he tells of the Academy's action towards the artists. The academicians were promised that they would be recognized with diplomas from the Board of Directors and that at some public meeting where ladies were to be invited, each

academician received with great pomp and ceremony, a paper tied with a pink ribbon which were thought to be the diplomas. However, upon reaching home and in their joy wishing to exhibit the honors conferred upon them to their families and friends, they learned to their disappointment and chagrin that each had a "blank paper". This was said by the artist quoted in Dunlap to be the death blow to all the zeal on the part of artists of that day for the PAFA. When the artists complained of the trick played upon their credulity, they were promised soon "Righty dighty" ones (meaning diplomas). But the artist continues that to this day, no one has ever been so honored by the Board.

Negotiations between the artists in the Academy were dropped by the recommendation of the committee representing the Society of Artists. The artists even changed the name of their group from Society of Artists to Columbian Society of Artists. The reason for the change has never been made public but it can be assumed that the treatment received suggested this need. Exhibits had gone on for a number of years, but in March 1816 the Columbian Society gave notice to the Academy that it would not exhibit in the future. The academy of that year did not attempt an exhibition.

In an attempt to arrive at the income which Reich produced during his early residence in the United States from 8/19/1800 to 4/1/1817, I submit the following: The Truxton Medal was attributed to Scot but indications are that Reich actually was asked to do the work. Truxton received $137.00. The possibility is that JMR received $100.00 of that for his execution of the dies. Though the Thomas Jefferson Indian Peace Medal was also attributed to Scot on 1/18/1802 it was indicated that he was paid $436.90. I suggest that $300.00 was paid to JMR In a letter dated 12/29/1801 from Voigt to Jefferson it is clearly stated that Scot had been hired to cut dies for "several medallions wanted for the Indian Nations". The director of the Mint induced Scot to employ JMR under him to do the work. In correspondence dated 1/23/1803, evidence exists that he executed a Masonic Medal with a $100.00 estimate in cost. On 4/12/1806 and 4/26/1806 George Harrison in correspondence indicates that Reich received $110.00 for the Philadelphia Bank Seal, an "Unknown" Insurance Company Seal $100.00, Phoenix Insurance Company Seal $80.00, Union Insurance Company Seal $80.00, and two Canal Companies Seals estimated at $120.00. On 5/3/1806 PAFA records tell us that they paid Reich $27.00 for their seal. On 6/27/1806 with a Thomas Jefferson compromise the total paid to Reich for the Preble Medal was $685.71. November 8, 1814 the Madison Peace Medals, three different sizes, Reich was paid $1000.00. On the Washington Benevolent Society, Baker 327, Julian RF23; I estimate the cost or the return to Reich $400.00. For the Thomas Jefferson Inaugural and 25th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Reich was entitled to 1/2 of the profits, but there is no evidence of how many dollars that this produced. The Hull Naval Medal 11/11/1815 dies were accomplished and he was paid $800.00. For the Decatur Medal completed in 1817, Reich was paid $400.00, 1/2 of the total expected because his obverse was a caricature. The Sansom Medals which included Baker 54, Baker 57, Baker 58, Baker 71, Betts 621 (?), and Betts 546 included a total of 7 dies; combinations of obverse and reverse. My estimate is $200.00 per die or a total of $1400.00 for the seven (7) pieces. Over the ten years of employment at the mint from 4/1/1807 to 3/31/1817, he was paid $600.00 a year or a total of $6000.00.

All of the monies that I have thus previously accounted for total $11,702.71. This did not include the $1.00 a week he received for his indenture, unknown seals and/or medals which he must have created but have not been recorded in the material available to me. Nor does this include his inheritance from his fathers death in 1814. Nothing is included for the Jefferson Inaugural.

Thus from the information available, the average annual income to Reich for the period 8/19/1800 through 3/31/1817 was $720.12 a year.

A letter written by James Maxwell and William Fry to John Reich in response to his letter of the 7th of September 1816 indicates the following. Reich had submitted a newly created bank note with the idea that it would be extremely difficult for counterfeiters to make an effective copy. Maxwell and Fry agreed that the submission was clever but the subject was dropped and there was no further action taken.

Joseph Sansom wrote to Thomas Jefferson, President, 11-13-1807. Evidencing his thanks for putting Reich to work at the Mint, but complaining about the fact that the salary at $600.00 a year was so low that he could hardly make ends meet. Sansom suggests that since the allowance for assistant engraver at the Mint is $800.00 a year, that it would be fair, reasonable and responsible to increase his pay to that level.

Thomas Jefferson responds 11-18-1807, that there are certain rules that must be followed in order to keep out a spirit of favoritism. There is a regular course to follow in advancement and that does not include starting with the "Chief Magistrate", meaning Thomas Jefferson.

JMR's father died in 1814 and apparently he was listed as one of the heirs of the estate. The Royal Bavarian City Court of Fürth in April of 1815 investigated the immigration of JMR to North America to decide whether he was an acceptable heir by the law of the state. The Royal Police Commissar, of April 29, decided that there was no problem with the JMR inheritance and that he was to receive his share of the estate with the applicable German State taxes deducted. Apparently the father had died 8 months ago and there was an attempt by some of the co-heirs preventing the share of JMR to be distributed.

On the 30th of March 1821, JMR wrote to Robert Patterson, director of the Mint in Philadelphia, from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania asking for a recommendation and a testimonial "to which I think myself justly entitled." No response to this request is on record but notes relating to it indicate that Patterson was about to respond to Reich's request, but on a non-committal basis. His notes indicate that "in compliance with your request you, JMR, were employed at the Mint 4-1-1807 and occupied as a die sinker engraver until 31 March 1817 when you voluntarily resigned this employment". The requested letter by JMR indicated that Patterson should respond to the firm Patterson and Lambdin in Pittsburg. The paper on which his letter was written was water marked Patterson and Company. No response is actually recorded, but the tone of the notes that he wrote in regard to it's potential response suggests that he was offering no great endorsement of Reich's work, probably because of the failure of Reich's

eyesight at the end of his service at the Mint.

This letter requests for recommendation and the possible response was the last written evidence we have been able to find supporting the life and works of JMR. From March 30, 1821 until his William Dunlap death notice of 1832, there is nothing. With the material available, 11 years seems to pass with no evidence of his activities or his life.

JMR having written Patterson, Superintendent of the Mint in Philadelphia, for a recommendation. The file attached to Reich's letter indicates that Patterson planned to respond on a very simple basis. 1) Reich had been employed April 1, 1807 through April 1, 1817 as a die sinker and 2) then he left the Mint on his own volition. No recommendation for the quality of his work. The response was to be made to Patterson and Lambdin in Pittsburgh.

There is no evidence suggesting the kind of a job that Reich needed a recommendation for nor whom his expected employer might be. But it seemed very clear that Patterson in his outline of response was not going to give him the kind of support that he was looking for.